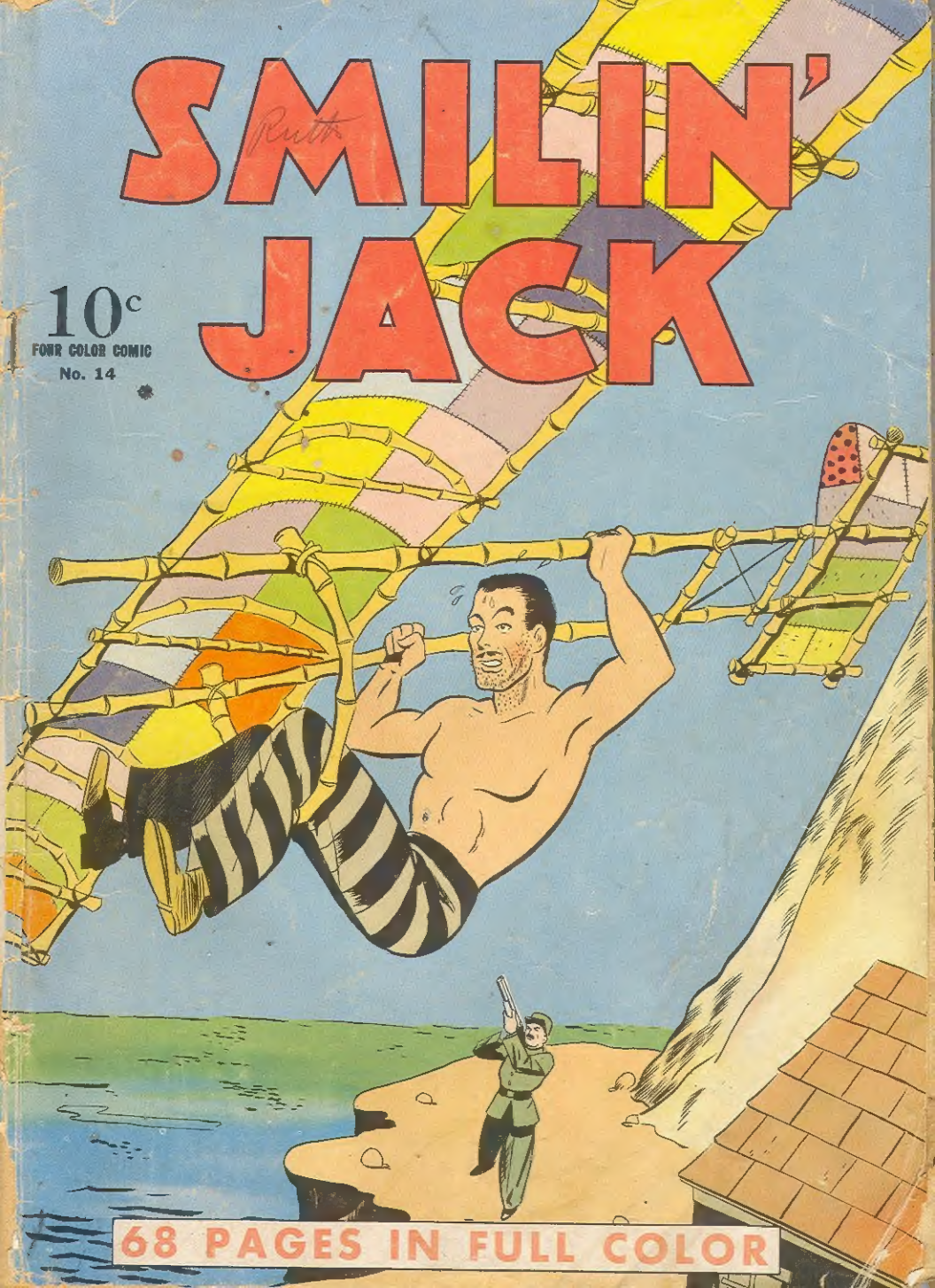
SMILIN' JACK
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No. 14
68 PAGES IN FULL COLOR

SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
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SMILIN' JACK, HEARTBROKEN BECAUSE DIXIE MARRIED DR. MEDIC BECAME A TEST PILOT TO FORGET HER. STRANGE THINGS HAPPENED TO THE SHIPS JACK WAS TESTING, AND HE SUSPECTED SABOTAGE. JACK, AND A FRIEND, GULL WING, WHO WAS TRYING TO PROVE HIS DAUGHTERS INNOCENCE, HID ABOARD MISS GALE'S AIR YACHT. GALE, AFTER FLYING THE SHIP FOR AN HOUR, LANDED, AND PICKED UP A MAN NAMED POWDER. JACK OVERHEARD THEIR CONVERSATION, AND REALIZED THAT THEY WERE BOTH SPIES. A FIGHT ENSUED, IN WHICH ALL WERE KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS, EXCEPT GULL WING, WHO THOUGH NERVOUS, BROUGHT THE SHIP TO A SAFE LANDING.

I WASN'T UN-CONSCIOUS!
WHAT!?
WHEN I CAME TO I STARTED FOR THE CONTROLS--BUT WHEN I SAW HOW WELL YOU WERE DOING
--I FIGURED IT WAS WORTH TH' CHANCE TO LET YOU LAND IT SO YOU'D GET YOUR NERVE BACK--YOU WERE PLENTY BRAVE, GULL--
ME? YOU WERE TH' BRAVE ONE!!
JACK, I'VE FIXED THE DAMAGE--WE'RE READY TO TAKE-OFF --ER-- HOW ABOUT ME DOING TH' PILOTING?
SURE, GULL, I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON OUR PRISONERS --GALE JUST CAME TO!
PLEASE DON'T TURN ME IN--YOU KNOW I'M A SPY AGAINST YOUR COUNTRY --BUT, JACK--I LOVE YOU!
LOVE! WHY, YOU COLD-BLOODED KILLER--YOU EXPLODED A PLANE WITH A HELPLESS PILOT AT THE CONTROLS AND YOU TALK OF LOVE!
BUT, JACK--I PROVED I LOVE YOU--IT WAS I WHO SLUGGED YOU SO YOU COULDN'T FLY THE PLANE THAT I KNEW WOULD CRASH---!
--AND SO YOU SENT HAPPY IN MY PLACE--AND NOW HE'S LYING AT DEATH'S DOOR BECAUSE OF YOUR GREAT LOVE!
BUT, JACK, DARLIN'--
QUIET! ONE MORE WORD OUT OF THAT DECEITFUL MOUTH AND I'M LIABLE TO LOSE MY TEMPER AND CHEAT THE GOVERNMENT OUT OF TH' PLEASURE OF DISPOSING OF YOU!!
CONGRATULATIONS! JACK, YOU AND GULL DID A NEAT JOB CAPTURING THESE SPIES!
THANKS, INSPECTOR --BUT WE'D BETTER GET TH' ONE CALLED POWDER TO TH' HOSPITAL--HE'S BADLY INJURED!
JACK, LOOK AT THESE PAPERS I FOUND ON POWDER --HE WAS TO MEET THE HEAD OF THIS ESPIONAGE RING--
YES--IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS AT SEA---OFF TH' COAST OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA!
LATER AT THE INFIRMARY-
IF THERE WERE SOME WAY WE COULD MEET THAT MAN WITH-OUT AROUSING SUSPICION--
--GOODNIGHT, JACK--LOOK---DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE? --LOOK!!

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SMILIN' JACK

---WHAT IS IT, INSPECTOR ??
LOOK AT THAT FELLOW, POWDER!!
WHAT ABOUT HIM? HE'S JUST A RAT AS FAR AS I CAN SEE!
JACK, IF YOU'D GROW A MUSTACHE --- AND BLEACH YOUR HAIR YOU'D BE A DEAD RINGER FOR HIM!
JACK--IT'D PROBABLY BE THE MOST DANGEROUS MISSION A MAN EVER TACKLED--BUT IF YOU'D TAKE POWDER'S PLACE---
--AND KEEP THAT RENDEZVOUS WITH THE HEAD--YOU MIGHT TRAP THE DEADLIEST SPY RING OF ALL TIMES!
DOUBLING FOR POWDER WOULD CERTAINLY BE A LONG SHOT, INSPECTOR--
TRUE, TH' LEAST SLIP-UP MIGHT BE FATAL--THINK IT OVER WHILE WE GO RELEASE BUNNY--CALL GULL!
OH, DAD--YOU MEAN I'M FREE--Y'SAY GALE WAS TH' SPY?
YES--GALE CONFESSED SHE FRAMED YOU TO SIDE-TRACK THE INVESTIGATION--SHE WAS FINANCED BY A FOREIGN POWER---
--AND JACK CAUGHT HER DELIVERING THE X-13 PLANS TO THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE!
OH, JACK--TO THINK YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE FOR---
AW--IT'S NOTHIN', BUNNY ANYBODY WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO RID OUR COUNTRY OF SPIES!
--AND I WAS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO THINK MAYBE HE DID IT FOR ME ----
WELL, JACK, YOU'RE A BRAVE LAD TO AGREE TO DOUBLE FOR POWDER---YOU'LL BE HIS TWIN BEFORE WE GET THROUGH WITH YOU---
WHEN DOES TH' TRANSFORMATION START INSPECTOR?
RIGHT NOW, --YOU MUST BE MADE OVER TO RESEMBLE HIM IN EVERY DETAIL!
OKAY--BUT MY GOIN' TO THE BEAUTY PARLOR FOR A BLEACH AND A PERMANENT WAVE IS GONNA SEEM AWFUL SISSY!
WELL, HERE'S SOMETHING THAT WON'T SEEM SO SISSY--LOOK AT THAT MARK IN POWDER'S LEFT HAND---
--IT'S A SYMBOL THAT'S BEEN BURNED THERE BY A BRANDING IRON!!
GULP!
SO I'VE GOTTA BE BRANDED!?
I WON'T BLAME YOU IF YOU REFUSE --BUT YOU MUST BE IF YOU DOUBLE FOR POWDER--
--CHANCES ARE THAT BRAND IN HIS HAND IS THE SECRET SYMBOL OF THE ESPIONAGE RING!
I REALIZE IT'S NECESSARY--JUST ONE SLIP-UP IN MY DISGUISE WOULD EXPOSE ME TO THE SPIES!
THEN IF YOU AGREE COME INTO THE LABORATORY--I'VE HAD A BRANDING IRON MADE TO RESEMBLE THE SYMBOL!

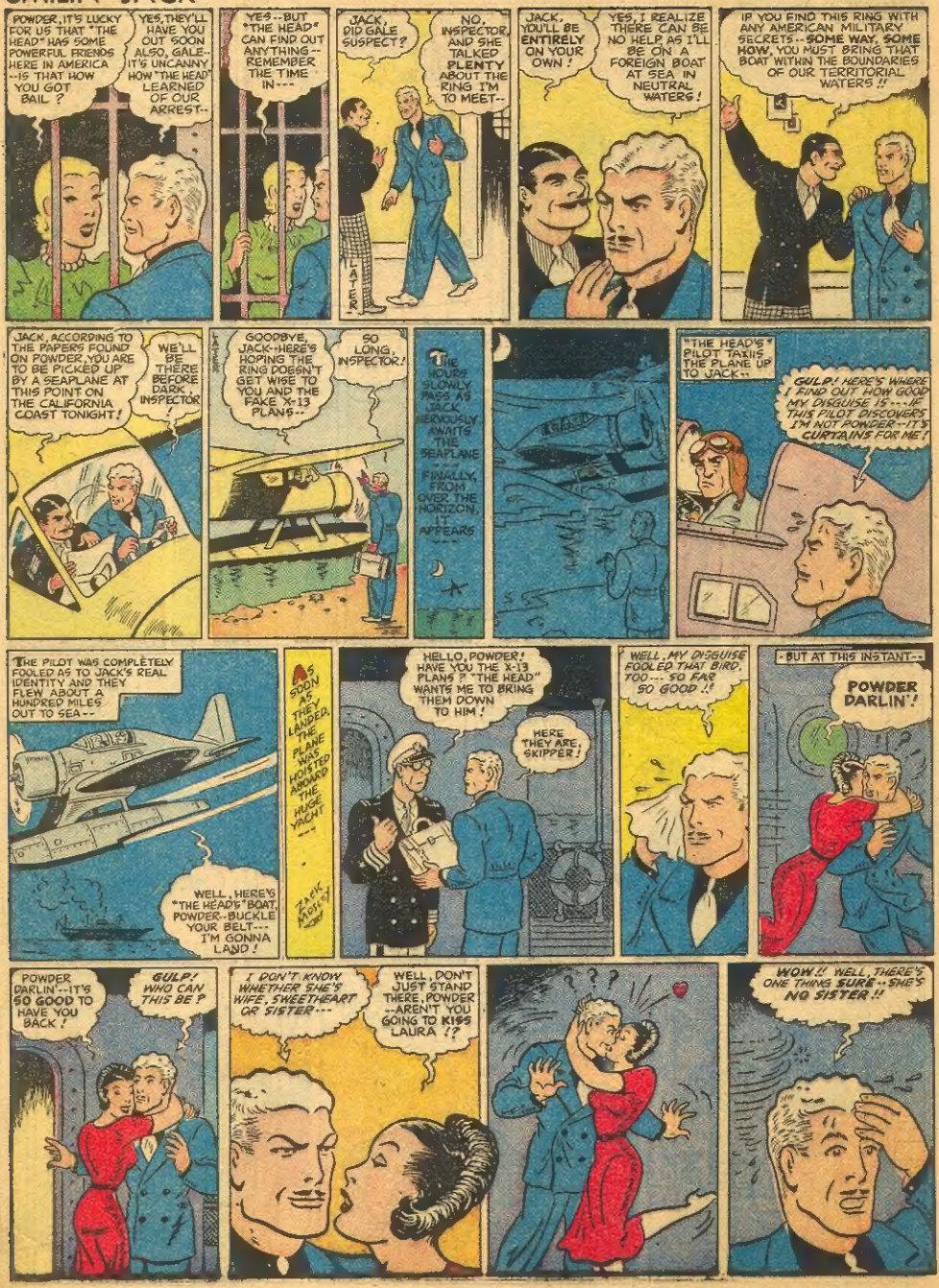
SMILIN' JACK

JACK STEELS EVERY MUSCLE AS THE RED-HOT IRON BURNS INTO HIS FLESH--
WHEW! THANK GOODNESS THAT'S OVER--NOW I KNOW HOW A COW FEELS WHEN SHE GETS BRANDED!
YOU'RE A BRAVE LAD, JACK--WELL NEXT YOU MUST GET YOUR HAIR FIXED!
--ER-- DO YOU BLEACH HAIR AND DO PERMANENT WAVES HERE?
SURELY--I'LL BE GLAD TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT IF YOU'LL GIVE ME THE LADY'S NAME---
The Florence BEAUTY SALON
IT'S NOT FOR A LADY -- IT'S--ER-- FOR ME!
OH!
TEE HEE--
WOO WOO!!
THERE'S SOMETHING FUNNY ABOUT THAT BIG ROUGH-NECK GETTING ALL THESE BEAUTY TREATMENTS NANCY!
YES, HELEN, HE'S IN A JAM OF SOME KIND--HIS HAND IS BANDAGED!
HE MAY BE SOME BIG GANGSTER GETTING DISGUISED--WE'D BETTER CALL THE G-MEN!
AT THE F.B.I. HEADQUARTERS
THERE'S A VERY SUSPICIOUS MAN HERE--- I'M SURE HE'S A PUBLIC ENEMY!
THANKS FOR THE TIP, LADY -- WE'LL BE RIGHT OVER!
H-H--HE'S IN THE BACK ROOM--
YOU LADIES CLEAR OUT--- THERE MAY BE GUN-PLAY!
ALL RIGHT, YOU BACK THERE--DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE--- WE HAVE YOU COVERED!
OH-- HAW-HAW --SO IT'S YOU, JACK-- HAW-HAW-HAW!!
WELL, JACK, YOU'D BE POWDER IN PERSON IF YOUR MUSTACHE WOULD START SPROUTIN' --HOW'S IT COMING?
LOOKS MIGHTY DISCOURAGIN' --HOW 'BOUT ME USING A FALSE ONE?
TOO DANGEROUS, JACK--IT MIGHT COME OFF AT THE WRONG TIME--- --SAY--DO YOU SMOKE?
NO, INSPECTOR --WHY?
YOU'D BETTER START PRACTICING ---POWDER SMOKES CIGARS --THIS IS THE BRAND WE FOUND IN HIS VEST POCKET!
WELL, JACK--- WHAT DO YOU THINK OF CIGAR SMOKIN'?
I DON'T THINK CIGAR SMOKING WOULD BE BAD---
--BUT WHY DID POWDER HAFTA SMOKE A BRAND OF "BOOT HEELS" LIKE THIS-----
WELL, JACK, POWDER IS RECOVERING--WE'VE PUT HIM IN A CELL ADJOINING THIS ROOM --YOU CAN STUDY HIS EVERY MOVE THROUGH THIS "LINE-UP" SHUTTER!
OH, I GET IT--"ONE WAY GLASS"--- I CAN WATCH HIM BUT HE CAN'T SEE ME---
RIGHT! YOU MUST TALK, WALK, EAT AND SLEEP LIKE POWDER--AND KEEP SMOKING HIS BRAND OF CIGARS 'TIL YOU MASTER THEM!
SAY--THERE'S ANOTHER LITTLE ITEM--POWDER HAS CIRCLES UNDER HIS EYES --HE LOOKS MORE DISSIPATED THAN YOU--!
YOU WON'T HAVE A THING TO WORRY ABOUT, INSPECTOR--
---A COUPLE MORE DAYS OF SMOKING HIS "BUGSY-WHIPS" WILL FIX THAT!

SMILIN' JACK

WHAT DO YOU SAY, INSPECTOR --LET'S GO OUT AND EAT DINNER---
YOU CAN'T GO OUT ANY MORE, JACK--YOU MUST REMAIN OBSCURE --ALL YOUR MEALS WILL BE SERVED HERE!
TONIGHT YOU START EATING TH' SAME FOODS THAT POWDER EATS--HERE'S TH' WAITRESS WITH YOUR TRAY NOW!
GOOD! I'M HUNGRY AS A RECESSION WOLF!
GULP! OKRA! EEL! TRIPE! SPINACH!--WHY BLAST THAT GUY POWDER! HE EATS EVERYTHING I DON'T LIKE---I'LL STARVE!!
WELL, THAT SIMPLIFIES MATTERS--
--THAT'LL HELP YOU REDUCE--YOU'VE GOTTA LOSE ABOUT TEN POUNDS AROUND TH' WAIST TO BE AS STREAMLINED AS POWDER!
UGH! WHAT A BUSINESS! EVEN MY STOMACH HAS GOTTA BE DISGUISED!!
WE CONCEALED A "MIKE" IN POWDER'S CELL AND MADE SOME RECORDS OF HIS VOICE SO YOU CAN PRACTICE TALKING LIKE HIM --- SAY, DO YOU SNORE?
I DON'T THINK SO --- BUT I SUPPOSE POWDER DOES--
YEAH--HE DOES--SO FROM NOW ON, TRY SLEEPIN' WITH YOUR MOUTH OPEN!
I'M BEGINNIN' TO HATE THAT GUY POWDER --WHY DOES HE HAFTA LOOK LIKE ME AND YET DO EVERYTHING DIFFERENT?
BY TH' WAY--HERE'S SOME TWEEZERS FOR YOU!
WHAT ARE THEY FOR?
OH, POWDER PLUCKS HIS EYE-BROWS!
WHAT! NEXT YOU'LL BE TELLIN' ME HE USES PERFUME!
HE DOES!
!!!
POWDER! COME HERE!
WHAT IS IT, INSPECTOR?
ATTA BOY, JACK--I WAS JUST TESTIN' YOU---YOU'RE POWDER TO A TEE, NOW!
YES--MY HAND IS HEALED AND EVEN MY MUSTACHE CAME AROUND --BUT IT SURE HAD ME WORRIED FOR A WHILE --HOW'S MY SPEECH?
PERFECT!--AND YOU HAVE HIS MANNERISMS DOWN PAT, ALSO!
WELL, I MAY BE POWDER TO YOU--BUT HOW WOULD I PASS WITH SOME ONE WHO REALLY KNOWS POWDER?
I HAVE IT--WE'LL TEST YOU OUT WITH GALE--SHE'S KNOWN POWDER A LONG TIME!
GOOD!--AND IF I CAN FOOL HER, I'LL LEARN PLENTY FROM HER THAT'LL HELP WHEN I MEET "THE HEAD" OF THE SPY RING!
WHEN YOU VISIT GALE'S CELL, TELL HER YOU'RE OUT ON BAIL AND THAT YOU'LL HAVE HER OUT SOON!
O--O-OKAY, INSPECTOR--
STOP BEING SO NERVOUS, JACK--EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON HOW YOU ACT WITH GALE!
I WISH I WERE AN ACTOR--I'VE GOT STAGE FRIGHT WORSE THAN WHEN I WAS IN TH' SENIOR PLAY--
HELLO, GALE--

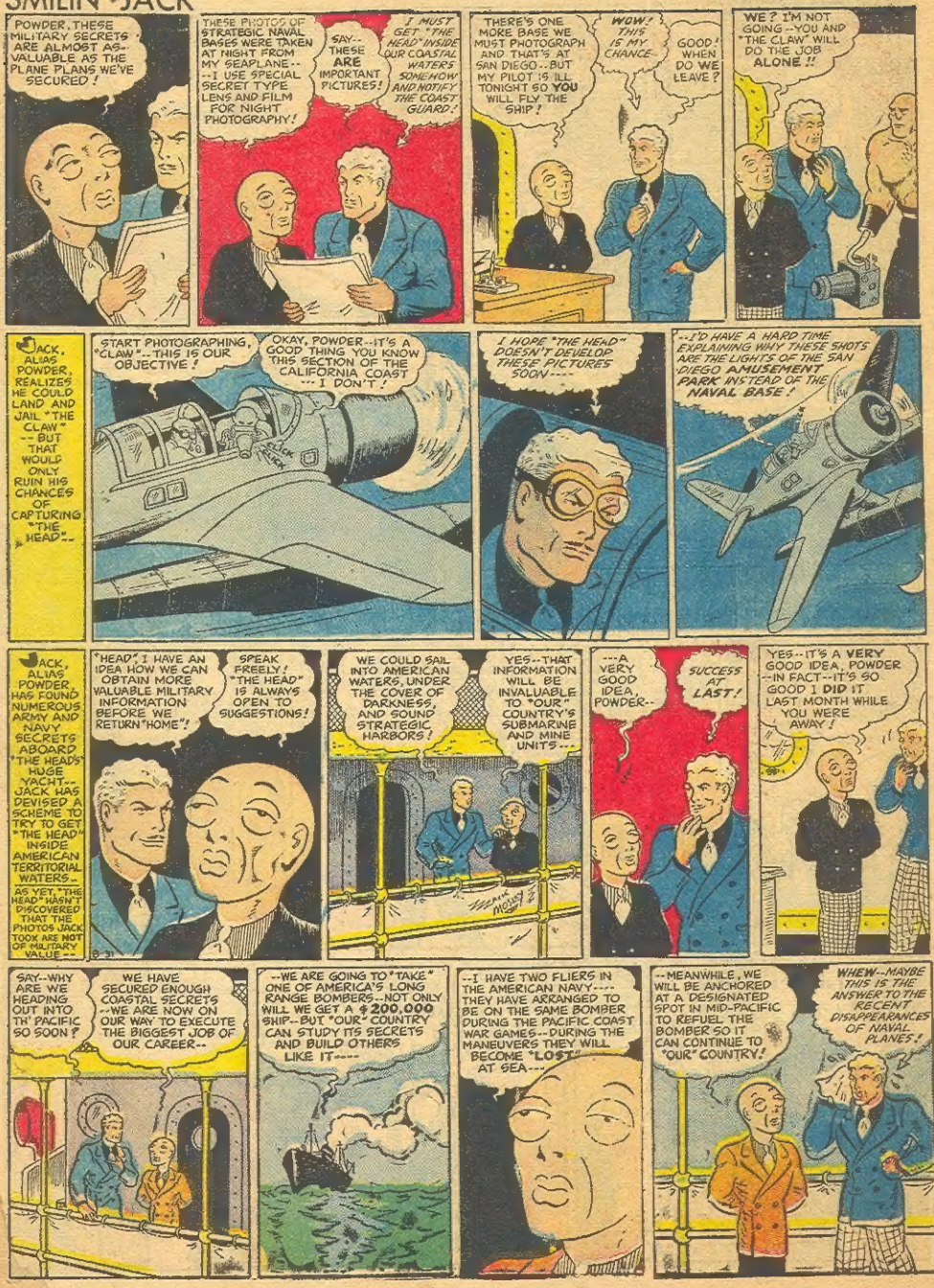
SMILIN' JACK


POWDER, IT'S LUCKY FOR US THAT "THE HEAD" HAS SOME POWERFUL FRIENDS HERE IN AMERICA --IS THAT HOW YOU GOT BAIL ?
YES, THEY'LL HAVE YOU OUT SOON ALSO, GALE-- IT'S UNCANNY HOW "THE HEAD" LEARNED OF OUR ARREST--
YES--BUT "THE HEAD" CAN FIND OUT ANYTHING -- REMEMBER THE TIME IN---
JACK, DID GALE SUSPECT?
NO, INSPECTOR AND SHE TALKED PLENTY ABOUT THE RING I'M TO MEET--
LATER
JACK, YOU'LL BE ENTIRELY ON YOUR OWN !
YES, I REALIZE THERE CAN BE NO HELP AS I'LL BE ON A FOREIGN BOAT AT SEA IN NEUTRAL WATERS !
IF YOU FIND THIS RING WITH ANY AMERICAN MILITARY SECRETS--SOME WAY, SOME HOW, YOU MUST BRING THAT BOAT WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR TERRITORIAL WATERS !!
JACK, ACCORDING TO THE PAPERS FOUND ON POWDER, YOU ARE TO BE PICKED UP BY A SEAPLANE AT THIS POINT ON THE CALIFORNIA COAST TONIGHT!
WE'LL BE THERE BEFORE DARK, INSPECTOR !
GOODBYE, JACK--HERE'S HOPING THE RING DOESN'T GET WISE TO YOU AND THE FAKE X-13 PLANS--
SO LONG, INSPECTOR!
THE HOURS SLOWLY PASS AS JACK NERVOUSLY AWAITS THE SEAPLANE
FINALLY, FROM OVER THE HORIZON, IT APPEARS ----
"THE HEAD'S" PILOT TAXIS THE PLANE UP TO JACK--
GULP! HERE'S WHERE I FIND OUT HOW GOOD MY DISGUISE IS---IF THIS PILOT DISCOVERS I'M NOT POWDER--IT'S CURTAINS FOR ME!
THE PILOT WAS COMPLETELY FOOLED AS TO JACK'S REAL IDENTITY AND THEY FLEW ABOUT A HUNDRED MILES OUT TO SEA--
WELL, HERE'S "THE HEAD'S" BOAT, POWDER--BUCKLE YOUR BELT--- I'M GONNA LAND !
AS SOON AS THEY LANDED, THE PLANE WAS HOISTED ABOARD THE HUGE YACHT ---
ZACK MOLEY
HELLO, POWDER! HAVE YOU THE X-13 PLANS ? "THE HEAD" WANTS ME TO BRING THEM DOWN TO HIM !
HERE THEY ARE, SKIPPER !
WELL, MY DISGUISE FOOLED THAT BIRD, TOO--- SO FAR SO GOOD !
-BUT AT THIS INSTANT--
POWDER DARLIN' !
POWDER DARLIN'--IT'S SO GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK !
GULP! WHO CAN THIS BE ?
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER SHE'S WIFE, SWEETHEART OR SISTER---
WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE, POWDER --AREN'T YOU GOING TO KISS LAURA !?
WOW !! WELL, THERE'S ONE THING SURE--SHE'S NO SISTER !!

SMILIN' JACK

POWDER, AREN'T YOU GLAD TO SEE LITTLE LAURA ? YOU ACT SO STRANGE ---SO COOL !
OF COURSE I'VE MISSED YOU, SWEETHEART--- LIFE HAS BEEN AN EMPTY DREAM WITHOUT YOU---
THERE! THAT'S MORE LIKE MY POWDER--I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT DAY THIS IS ??
ER--OF COURSE I DIDN'T FORGET--BUT, HONEY, I'VE BEEN SO BUSY I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GET YOU A PRESENT !
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, POWDER --JUST HAVING YOU WITH ME ON OUR ANNIVERSARY IS ALL A WIFE COULD ASK !
WIFE! YE GADS! I'M MARRIED!
GULP! I'VE BEEN ABOARD THIS SPY SHIP LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES AND I TURN OUT TO BE A "HUSBAND"!
POWDER, WHAT'S TH' MATTER WITH YOU ? YOU'RE AS NERVOUS AS A JITTER BUG---
OH--IT'S NOTHIN', LAURA DEAR--JUST BEEN WORKING TOO HARD--GOT A LOT ON MY MIND---
YOU MUST HAVE--YOU HAVEN'T EVEN ASKED ABOUT WALLY--
WALLY ? OH YES-- --HOW IS WALLY ? WHAT'S HE BEEN DOING WHILE I'VE BEEN AWAY ?
SILLY--WHAT ELSE COULD OUR SON DO BUT PLAY IN HIS CRIB---
HOLY SMOKE--I'M A "FATHER" TOO !!
DA-DA-
POWDER, "THE HEAD" SAYS HE'S WELL PLEASED WITH THE PLANS YOU JUST BROUGHT HIM--- HE'LL SEE YOU IN TH' MORNING--- GOOD NIGHT!
G--G-- GOOD NIGHT, SKIPPER.
HO-HUM!
GULP! I GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE SOMEHOW.. --DOUBLE QUICK--
SAY, LAURA--I --ER--I'M--- LEAVING--I MAY AS WELL TELL YOU--I DON'T LOVE YOU ANY-MORE !
AW, YOU'RE KIDDIN'!
I HATE TO DO THIS--BUT I GOTTA MAKE IT LOOK REAL--
KIDDIN', EH ? WELL, THIS IS WHAT I THINK OF YOU !
SLAP
OW! YOU CAN'T SLAP ME LIKE THAT!!
--AN' GET OUT AN' STAY OUT !!
WOW! A JIU JITSU ARTIST !
GOOD MORNING, POWDER--- "THE HEAD" WISHES YOU TO COME BELOW !
OKAY, SKIPPER!
POWDER, HOW DOES IT HAPPEN YOU WALKED OUT ON YOUR FAMILY ? THE SKIPPER SAYS YOU TOOK A CABIN BY YOURSELF!
WELL--ER--MY WIFE AND I HAD A FAMILY QUARREL TH' MINUTE I CAME ABOARD!
THAT'S TOO BAD..YOU TWO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF MY RING FOR A LONG TIME --I'D HATE TO LOSE EITHER OF YOU--
LOSE US--- WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?
FIGHTING AMONG MEMBERS SOME-TIMES CAUSES ONE TO SEEK REVENGE BY TRYING TO EXPOSE THE OTHER TO ENEMIES !
DON'T WORRY-- THERE WON'T BE ANY MORE FIGHTING-- I'LL STAY COMPLETELY OUT OF HER WAY---
ANY ATTEMPT AT REVENGE MIGHT ENDANGER MY ESPIONAGE-SYSTEM--SUCH A FOOLISH MOVE BY EITHER OF YOU WILL MEAN INSTANT DISPOSAL BY "THE CLAW"!

SMILIN' JACK


POWDER, THESE MILITARY SECRETS ARE ALMOST AS VALUABLE AS THE PLANE PLANS WE'VE SECURED!
THESE PHOTOS OF STRATEGIC NAVAL BASES WERE TAKEN AT NIGHT FROM MY SEAPLANE--
--I USE SPECIAL SECRET TYPE LENS AND FILM FOR NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY!
SAY--THESE ARE IMPORTANT PICTURES!
I MUST GET "THE HEAD" INSIDE OUR COASTAL WATERS SOMEHOW AND NOTIFY THE COAST GUARD!
THERE'S ONE MORE BASE WE MUST PHOTOGRAPH AND THAT'S AT SAN DIEGO--BUT MY PILOT IS ILL TONIGHT SO YOU WILL FLY THE SHIP!
WOW! THIS IS MY CHANCE--
GOOD! WHEN DO WE LEAVE?
WE? I'M NOT GOING--YOU AND "THE CLAW" WILL DO THE JOB ALONE!!
JACK, ALIAS POWDER, REALIZES HE COULD LAND AND JAIL "THE CLAW"--BUT THAT WOULD ONLY RUIN HIS CHANCES OF CAPTURING "THE HEAD"--
START PHOTOGRAPHING, "CLAW"--THIS IS OUR OBJECTIVE!
"OKAY, POWDER--IT'S A GOOD THING YOU KNOW THIS SECTION OF THE CALIFORNIA COAST--I DON'T!"
I HOPE "THE HEAD" DOESN'T DEVELOP THESE PICTURES SOON----
--I'D HAVE A HARD TIME EXPLAINING WHY THESE SHOTS ARE THE LIGHTS OF THE SAN DIEGO AMUSEMENT PARK INSTEAD OF THE NAVAL BASE!
JACK, ALIAS POWDER, HAS FOUND NUMEROUS ARMY AND NAVY SECRETS ABOARD "THE HEAD'S" HUGE YACHT--JACK HAS DEVISED A SCHEME TO TRY TO GET "THE HEAD" INSIDE AMERICAN TERRITORIAL WATERS--
AS YET "THE HEAD" HASN'T DISCOVERED THAT THE PHOTOS JACK TOOK ARE NOT OF MILITARY VALUE--
"HEAD", I HAVE AN IDEA HOW WE CAN OBTAIN MORE VALUABLE MILITARY INFORMATION BEFORE WE RETURN "HOME"!
SPEAK FREELY! "THE HEAD" IS ALWAYS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS!
WE COULD SAIL INTO AMERICAN WATERS, UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS, AND SOUND STRATEGIC HARBORS!
YES--THAT INFORMATION WILL BE INVALUABLE TO "OUR" COUNTRY'S SUBMARINE AND MINE UNITS--
--A VERY GOOD IDEA, POWDER--
SUCCESS AT LAST!
YES--IT'S A VERY GOOD IDEA, POWDER--IN FACT--IT'S SO GOOD I DID IT LAST MONTH WHILE YOU WERE AWAY!
SAY--WHY ARE WE HEADING OUT INTO TH' PACIFIC SO SOON?
WE HAVE SECURED ENOUGH COASTAL SECRETS--WE ARE NOW ON OUR WAY TO EXECUTE THE BIGGEST JOB OF OUR CAREER--
--WE ARE GOING TO "TAKE" ONE OF AMERICA'S LONG RANGE BOMBERS--NOT ONLY WILL WE GET A $200,000 SHIP--BUT "OUR" COUNTRY CAN STUDY ITS SECRETS AND BUILD OTHERS LIKE IT----
--I HAVE TWO FLIERS IN THE AMERICAN NAVY----THEY HAVE ARRANGED TO BE ON THE SAME BOMBER DURING THE PACIFIC COAST WAR GAMES--DURING THE MANEUVERS THEY WILL BECOME "LOST" AT SEA---
--MEANWHILE, WE WILL BE ANCHORED AT A DESIGNATED SPOT IN MID-PACIFIC TO REFUEL THE BOMBER SO IT CAN CONTINUE TO "OUR" COUNTRY!
WHEW--MAYBE THIS IS THE ANSWER TO THE RECENT DISAPPEARANCES OF NAVAL PLANES!

SUDDENLY--
GOOD NIGHT! LISTEN TO ALL TH' COMMOTION BELOW DECKS---
GRAB HIM!
WE'LL FIX HIM!
HEY, "CLAW"--WHAT'S ALL TH' EXCITEMENT ABOUT?
"THE HEAD" HAS JUST DISCOVERED THERE'S AN IMPOSTOR ABOARD!
POWDER, LOOK AT THE FOOL THAT TRIED TO OUT WIT "THE HEAD"--WE DISCOVERED HE'S AN AGENT FOR ANOTHER SPY RING!
MERCY!
MERCY!
CAN YUH BELIEVE IT? THE CHEF IS THE IMPOSTOR---SAY--WHAT'S WRONG, POWDER? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'D JUST SEEN AN ELECTRIC CHAIR---
OH---IT'S NOTHING, "CLAW"---JUST TH' HEAT!
CHEF, YOU'VE PREPARED YOUR LAST MEAL---I NOW GIVE YOU TO "THE CLAW"!!
NO! NO!
THE DESPICABLE THIEF WAS TRYING TO STEAL SECRETS FROM US--HE'S BEEN ABOARD DISGUISED AS MY CHEF!

SMILIN' JACK

BY ZACK MOSLEY

SMILIN' JACK DISGUISED AS "POWDER" AN AGENT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SPY RING HAS BEEN TAKEN ABOARD THE "HEADS" YACHT. THE COOK ON THE SHIP HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF TREASON.

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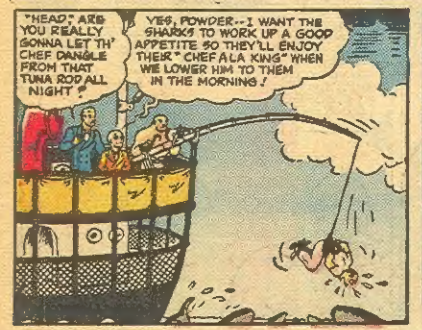

"HEAD," ARE YOU REALLY GONNA LET TH' CHEF DANGLE FROM THAT TUNA ROD ALL NIGHT?
YES, POWDER--I WANT THE SHARKS TO WORK UP A GOOD APPETITE SO THEY'LL ENJOY THEIR "CHEF A LA KING" WHEN WE LOWER HIM TO THEM IN THE MORNING!

JACK, ALIAS POWDER PLAYS OUT THE ROPE UNTIL THE RUBBER RAFT IS DIRECTLY UNDER THE UNFORTUNATE CHEF--AND CALLS SOFTLY--

HEY--YOU DOWN THERE--I'M CUTTING YOU LOOSE --I'M SURE YOU'LL BE PICKED UP IN TH' MORNING --WE PASSED A TRAMP FREIGHTER ON THIS SAME COURSE THIS AFTERNOON---

FREEING THE CHEF, "THE HEAD" AND "CLAW" APPEAR--

--SAME OL' TENDER HEARTED POWDER--- COULDN'T BEAR TO SEE EVEN AN ENEMY SUFFER ALL NIGHT---SO YOU DROPPED HIM TO THE SHARKS TO GET HIM OUT OF HIS MISERY!?

WHEW! THANK MY LUCKY STARS IT'S TOO DARK FOR THE "HEAD" TO SEE HIS VICTIM SAFE ON TH' RAFT!

I'M SORRY, 'HEAD'--GUESS I JUST CAN'T HELP GETTIN' SENTIMENTAL AT TIMES!

YOU'LL GET SENTIMENTAL ONCE TOO OFTEN, POWDER--YOU ACT WITHOUT ORDERS JUST ONCE MORE AND YOU'LL MEET A WORSE FATE!!

WOW! WAS THAT A CLOSE SHAVE!!

"CLAW," POWDER HAS BEEN ACTING VERY PECULIAR LATELY--I WANT YOU TO SHADOW HIM CONTINUALLY AND REPORT HIS EVERY MOVE TO ME!

LAURA, YOU AND POWDER WERE VERY MUCH IN LOVE AT ONE TIME, WEREN'T YOU?

YES, "HEAD", BUT THE MOMENT HE CAME ABOARD HE PICKED A FIGHT WITH ME AND I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE!

YES, I KNOW--HE'S BEEN STAYING IN THAT LITTLE SINGLE CABIN ACROSS THE HALL FROM ME EVER SINCE HIS ARRIVAL!

YOU'D THINK HE'D AT LEAST DROP BY TO SEE OUR BABY!

OH--- WHERE'S "THE CLAW" --WHAT DID YOU LEARN, "CLAW"?

NOTHIN' MUCH--BUT I WATCHED EVERY MOVE POWDER MADE---

--AND THEN JUST BEFORE POWDER WENT TO BED HE CUT HIS TOE NAILS WITH SCISSORS AND---

SCISSORS? WHY THAT'S GOOD! POWDER ALWAYS USED A NAIL FILE ON HIS TOES BEFORE!

MM-M! WE'D BETTER GIVE POWDER A LITTLE THIRD DEGREE!

"THE HEAD" WANTS TO SEE YOU POWDER!

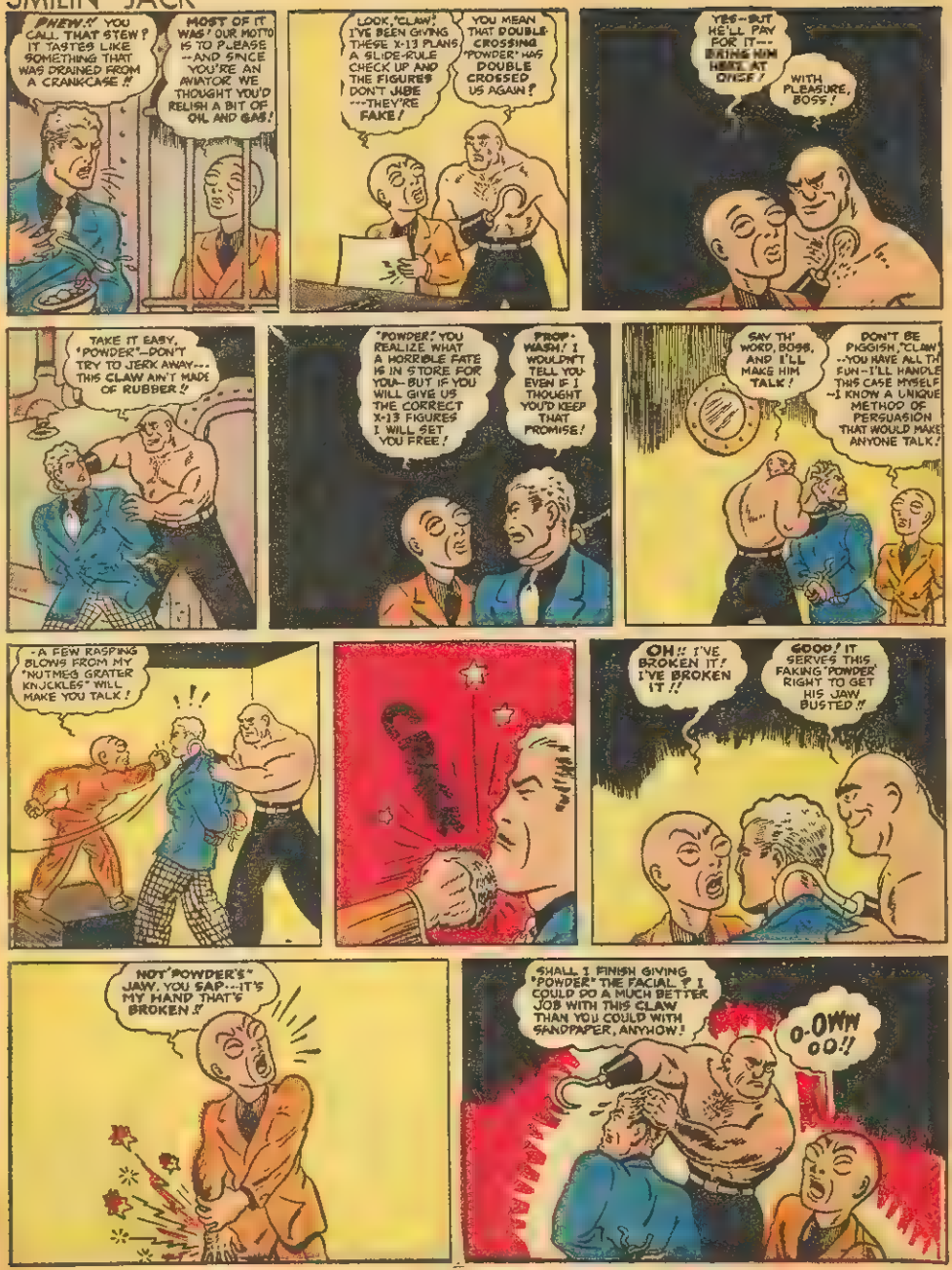
SURE--BE RIGHT WITH YOU!

SMILIN' JACK

'MORNING, "HEAD"--- HELLO, LAURA--WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT---A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING ?
---WELL---WHY DOESN'T SOMEBODY SAY SOMETHING--- --YOU'D THINK THIS WAS SOMEONE'S FUNERAL---
IT MAY BE!
WELL, "HEAD," IF YOU DON'T WANT ME FOR ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR, I'LL GO BACK TO MY CABIN--I WAS IN TH' MIDDLE OF A GOOD BOOK!
WAIT, POWDER, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU, BUT I HESITATE BECAUSE OF IT'S SAD NATURE!
IF POWDER IS AN IMPOSTOR HIS REACTION TO WHAT I TELL HIM WILL GIVE HIM AWAY FOR CERTAIN!
POWDER, I'M SORRY--BUT WE JUST RECEIVED A WIRELESS IN CODE STATING THAT YOUR BROTHER WAS KILLED IN A PLANE CRASH!
GULP--THIS MAY BE A TRAP--WHAT SHOULD I SAY TO THIS?
JACK IS SUSPICIOUS THAT "THE HEAD'S STATEMENT IS A TRICK--- --BUT HE REALIZES THAT ANY REPLY HE MAKES MAY TRAP HIM---
WELL, POWDER, YOU CERTAINLY SHOW LITTLE EMOTION FOR ONE THAT'S JUST LOST A BROTHER!
WHATEVER I SAY WILL BE A GUESS--- --BUT I GOTTA SAY SOMETHING--
---AH--ER---WE WERE NEVER VERY CLOSE TO EACH OTHER---
I'LL SAY YOU WEREN'T.
--POWDER-- NEVER---- --HAD--A-- BROTHER!
!!!

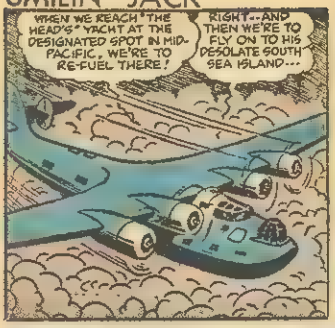
SMILIN' JACK

POWDER--YOU ARE AN IMPOSTOR!
WAIT--MY RESPONSE MAY HAVE SOUNDED FOOLISH--BUT I--ER--GOT A BAD BLOW ON MY HEAD NOT LONG AGO--BEEN SORTA CRAZY EVER SINCE---
CRAZY IS RIGHT--YOU WERE CRAZY TO EVER THINK YOU COULD TRICK "THE HEAD"--TAKE HIM AWAY, "CLAW"!
SHALL I THROW HIM TO THE SHARKS?
NO! THAT'S TOO EASY FOR HIM--LOCK HIM IN THE HOLD TILLWE REACH THE NEXT CORAL REEF---
--THEN WE WILL PULL OUT HIS FINGER AND TOE NAILS AND LEAVE HIM TO DIE!!
!!!
MY WHILE JACK IS AT THE MERCY OF THE HEAD OF THE SPY RING, WE LOOK IN ON BUNNY AND GULL WING AT HOME
DAD, WHERE DO YOU SUPPOSE JACK CAN BE?
IT IS STRANGE--I'VE TRIED EVERY-WHERE TO LOCATE HIM! AFTER ALL THE SWELL THINGS HE DID FOR US I WANTED TO REPAY HIM SOME WAY!
WHAT ABOUT THE INSPECTOR? HE AND JACK WERE TOGETHER ALL THE TIME--DOESN'T HE KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM?
I'VE TALKED TO HIM ABOUT JACK--BUT HE ACTS VERY MYSTERIOUS --HE JUST SAYS JACK WENT AWAY ON A LONG TRIP!
I JUST FEEL CERTAIN THAT JACK'S IN TROUBLE!
WELL, THAT'S ONE THING YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT, HONEY--IF JACK'S IN ANY KIND OF A JAM HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF!
I'M CRAZY TO LET MYSELF [illegible] ABOUT JACK--I DON'T EVEN EXIST AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED--B--BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT LOVE HIM---
HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR NEW QUARTERS, 'POWDER'--ARE YOU COMFORTABLE?
OH, OF COURSE! NOTHING LIKE A CELL WITH HOT AND COLD RUNNING RATS TO MAKE A PERSON FEEL LIKE HE'S IN THE RITZY RITZY!
BY TH' WAY, WHERE IS THE REAL 'POWDER'?
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW--
MY! WHAT A CURT DISPOSITION--BUT I GUESS WE CAN'T EXPECT ANYONE TO TALK ON AN EMPTY STOMACH--"CLAW," WHY HAVEN'T YOU BROUGHT 'POWDER' HIS LUNCH?
LATER
HERE YOU ARE, "POWDER"--MULLIGAN STEW!
MULLIGAN STEW--OH, BOY! MY FAVORITE DISH--MAYBE BEING A PRISONER ISN'T SO BAD, AFTER ALL!

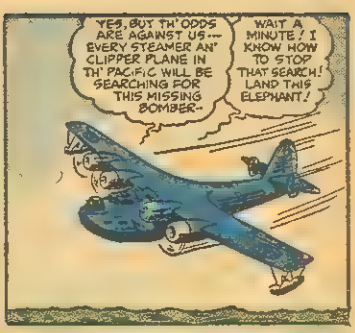

PHEW!" YOU CALL THAT STEW? IT TASTES LIKE SOMETHING THAT WAS DRAINED FROM A CRANKCASE!!
MOST OF IT WAS! OUR MOTTO IS TO PLEASE --AND SINCE YOU'RE AN AVIATOR WE THOUGHT YOU'D RELISH A BIT OF OIL AND GAS!
LOOK, "CLAW!" I'VE BEEN GIVING THESE X-13 PLANS A SLIDE-RULE CHECK UP AND THE FIGURES DON'T JIBE ---THEY'RE FAKE!
YOU MEAN THAT DOUBLE CROSSING "POWDER" HAS DOUBLE CROSSED US AGAIN?
YES--BUT HE'LL PAY FOR IT--BRING HIM HERE AT ONCE!
WITH PLEASURE, BOSS!
TAKE IT EASY, "POWDER"--DON'T TRY TO JERK AWAY--- THIS CLAW AIN'T MADE OF RUBBER!
"POWDER!" YOU REALIZE WHAT A HORRIBLE FATE IS IN STORE FOR YOU--BUT IF YOU WILL GIVE US THE CORRECT X-13 FIGURES I WILL SET YOU FREE!
PROP-WASH! I WOULDN'T TELL YOU EVEN IF I THOUGHT YOU'D KEEP THAT PROMISE!
SAY TH' WORD, BOSS, AND I'LL MAKE HIM TALK!
DON'T BE PIGGISH, "CLAW" --YOU HAVE ALL TH' FUN--I'LL HANDLE THIS CASE MYSELF --I KNOW A UNIQUE METHOD OF PERSUASION THAT WOULD MAKE ANYONE TALK!
-A FEW RASPING BLOWS FROM MY "NUTMEG GRATER KNUCKLES" WILL MAKE YOU TALK!
OH!! I'VE BROKEN IT! I'VE BROKEN IT!!
GOOD! IT SERVES THIS FAKING "POWDER" RIGHT TO GET HIS JAW BUSTED!!
"NOT "POWDER'S" JAW, YOU SAP---IT'S MY HAND THAT'S BROKEN!!
SHALL I FINISH GIVING "POWDER" THE FACIAL? I COULD DO A MUCH BETTER JOB WITH THIS CLAW THAN YOU COULD WITH SANDPAPER, ANYHOW!
O-OWN OO!!

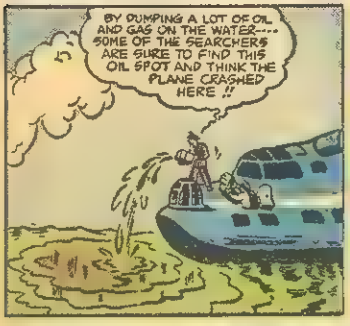
STOP WORRYING ABOUT "POWDER"! THROW HIM BACK IN THE HOLD AND DO SOMETHING FOR MY HAND--IT'S KILLING ME!!
GET IN THERE AND STAY THERE! I'LL BE BACK TO TAKE CARE OF YOU LATER --AND NEXT TIME WE'LL DO IT MY WAY!!
QWW-H! STOP HURTING ME, YOU FOOL! --OR I'LL BLOW TH' DAYLIGHTS OUT OF YOU O-OWW!!
--BUT, "HEAD," WE CAN'T SET THE BONES WITHOUT IT HURTING A LITTLE BIT --BE PATIENT--AND WE'LL SOON HAVE IT IN SPLINTS!
MOO
O-OW
OW-H! O-OWH!" THAT DOUBLE-CROSSING "POWDER" WILL PAY PLENTY FOR THIS! NO $+@!"&% =!@'&! CAN BREAK MY HAND WITH HIS JAW AND GET AWAY WITH IT!!
DAD, I JUST CAN'T STOP WORRYING ABOUT JACK--- LET'S GO TO THE INSPECTOR AND MAKE HIM TELL US WHAT HE KNOWS--
O K, BUNNY --WE'LL TRY'
INSPECTOR, WE KNOW YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT JACK --AND YOU'VE GOT TO TELL US!
YES, GULL I DO KNOW --BUT---
--ALL I CAN DIVULGE IS THAT JACK IS AWAY ON A SECRET MISSION OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE --BUT DON'T WORRY--I'M SURE EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT!
MEANTIME, LET'S LOOK ABOARD A CERTAIN AMERICAN NAVY BOMBER-TWO NAVY PILOTS, IN THE EMPLOY OF "THE HEAD," HAVE OVER-POWERED AND BOUND THE REST OF THE BOMBER'S CREW--
WONDER WHAT "THE HEAD" WILL DO WITH THIS CREW WHEN WE TURN THEM OVER TO HIM?
OH, HE'LL THINK UP SOME CUTE EXECUTION! HE'S JUST FULL OF ROMAN HOLIDAY IDEAS!!

SMILIN' JACK

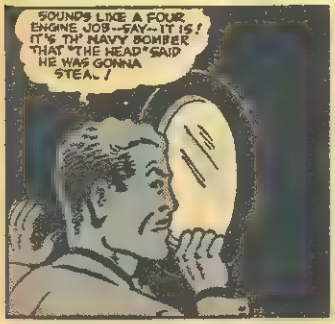

WHEN WE REACH "THE HEAD'S" YACHT AT THE DESIGNATED SPOT IN MID-PACIFIC, WE'RE TO RE-FUEL THERE!
RIGHT--AND THEN WE'RE TO FLY ON TO HIS DESOLATE SOUTH SEA ISLAND---

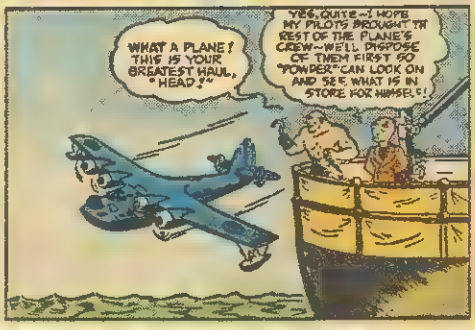
--SOME OF "THE HEAD'S" ENGINEERS ARE GONNA BE THERE SO THEY CAN STUDY THIS PLANE'S SECRETS!
IF WE SUCCEED IN DELIVERING THIS PLANE TO THEM WE'LL HAVE PULLED THE BIGGEST ESPIONAGE JOB OF ALL TIMES!


YES, BUT TH' ODDS ARE AGAINST US--- EVERY STEAMER AN' CLIPPER PLANE IN TH' PACIFIC WILL BE SEARCHING FOR THIS MISSING BOMBER--
WAIT A MINUTE! I KNOW HOW TO STOP THAT SEARCH! LAND THIS ELEPHANT!

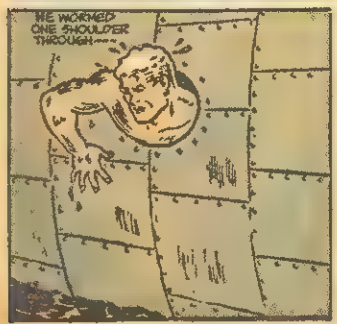

BY DUMPING A LOT OF OIL AND GAS ON THE WATER--- SOME OF THE SEARCHERS ARE SURE TO FIND THIS OIL SPOT AND THINK THE PLANE CRASHED HERE !!

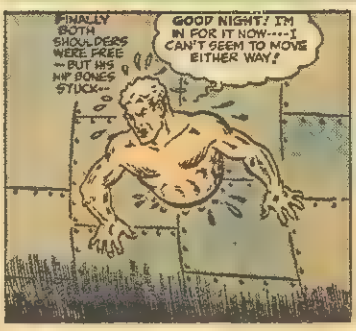
"CLAW," KEEP "POWDER" IN THE HOLD 'TIL WE REACH SKULL REEF--WE'LL GIVE HIM THE SLOW DEATH THERE
SWELL--TH' WAY WE'VE BEEN STARVIN' HIM---HE'LL BE IN GOOD CONDITION FOR IT!

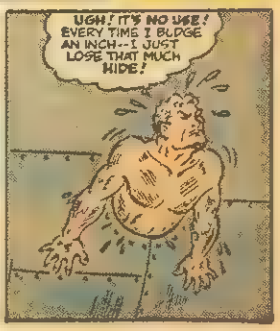



WHAT A PLANE! THIS IS YOUR GREATEST HAUL, "HEAD!"
YES, QUITE--I HOPE MY PILOTS BROUGHT TH' REST OF THE PLANE'S CREW--WE'LL DISPOSE OF THEM FIRST SO "POWDER" CAN LOOK ON AND SEE WHAT IS IN STORE FOR HIMSELF!

IN A DESPERATE EFFORT TO GET ABOARD THE STOLEN NAVY PLANE BEFORE "THE HEAD'S" PILOTS HAVE FINISHED RE-FUELLING IT, JACK ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE THROUGH THE EXTRA SMALL PORT-HOLE BY GREASING HIS BODY WITH OIL FROM THE YACHT'S DRIVE SHAFT BEARING---







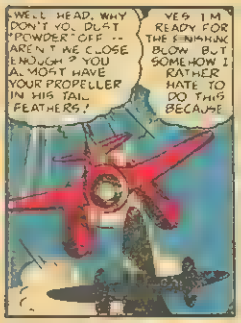
SMILIN' JACK

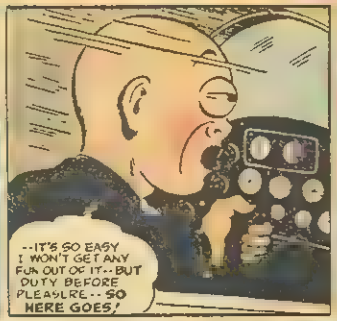
OW! THERE GOES ANOTHER YARD OF HIDE---- BUT I'M COMING LOOSE !!
JACK, ALIAS POWDER, HAD SWUM UNDER WATER TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE STOLEN NAVY PLANE WHICH WAS BEING RE-FUELLED
AM I LUCKY-- ONLY ONE PILOT ABOARD!
CRACK!
JUST AS JACK KNOCKS THE PILOT OVER-BOARD, "THE HEAD" SPOTS HIM--
LOOK! THERE'S "POWDER"--HE'S GETTING INTO THE COCKPIT-- --GET OUT THE GUNS, "CLAW"!
AS JACK DIVED INTO THE COCKPIT, HE SLAMMED ON THE STARTERS AND THROTTLES
NOW TO TAKE OFF BEFORE THIS FUSILLADE OF BULLETS RIDDLES ME TO SHREDS!
"THE BACK-WASH" FROM THE POWERFUL MOTORS CREATED A REGULAR HURRICANE --
THIS MANEUVER GAVE JACK A CHANCE TO LOCATE AND RELEASE THE ANCHOR CONTROL --- AS JACK TOOK OFF, "THE HEAD" ORDERED HIS OWN PLANE TO BE LOWERED INTO THE WATER ---
LOOK, "HEAD"-- WE'RE GAINING ON HIM!
OF COURSE, STUPID--- THIS PURSUIT JOB IS MUCH FASTER THAN THAT BOMBER--- AND THAT ISN'T THE ONLY BEAUTIFUL THING ABOUT THIS PLANE---
THERE ARE FOUR SYNCHRONIZED MACHINE GUNS IN THE NOSE OF THIS SKY-DEVIL --- I'LL PULL UP ON "POWDER'S" TAIL AND LET THEM SING HIM TO SLEEP!!
RAT-TAT-TAT
BUT THIS ELEPHANT CAN'T OUT-MANEUVER THAT LITTLE HORNET!!
AT THIS INSTANT JACK'S BRAIN DOES A GROUND LOOP AND ENDS UP WITH A THREE POINT IDEA --
I HAVE IT! I'LL TURN ON TH' ROBOT PILOT AND LET THE PLANE FLY ITSELF AND---
--IF THIS TRICK DOESN'T KILL "THE HEAD," THE BULLETS WILL !!

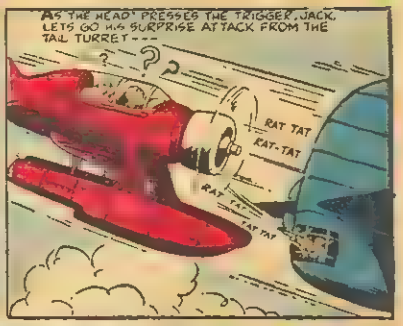
SMILIN' JACK

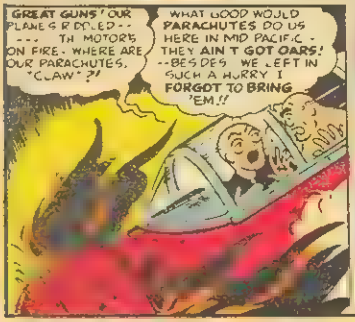
BY ZACK MOSLEY

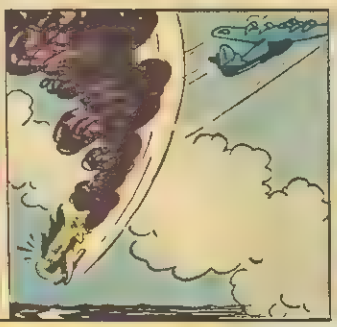
SMILIN' JACK ALIAS "POWDER" AN AGENT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SPY RING HAS ESCAPED FROM THE "HEAD'S" YACHT IN A STOLEN PLANE. THE "HEAD AND "CLAW" QUICKLY PURSUE JACK.

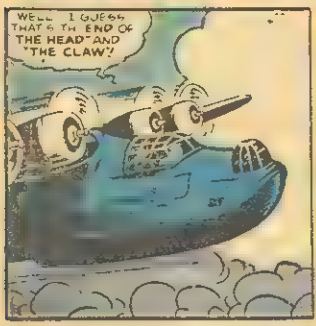

WELL HEAD, WHY DON'T YOU JUST "POWDER" OFF -- AREN'T WE CLOSE ENOUGH ? YOU ALMOST HAVE YOUR PROPELLER IN HIS TAIL FEATHERS!
YES I'M READY FOR THE SHMUCK BLOW BUT SOMEHOW I RATHER HATE TO DO THIS BECAUSE



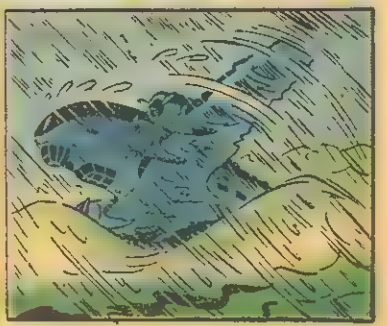



GREAT GUNS! OUR PLANE'S RIDDLED-- --- TH MOTORS ON FIRE - WHERE ARE OUR PARACHUTES, "CLAW" ?!
WHAT GOOD WOULD PARACHUTES DO US HERE IN MID PACIFIC - THEY AIN'T GOT OARS! --BESIDES WE LEFT IN SUCH A HURRY I FORGOT TO BRING 'EM!!

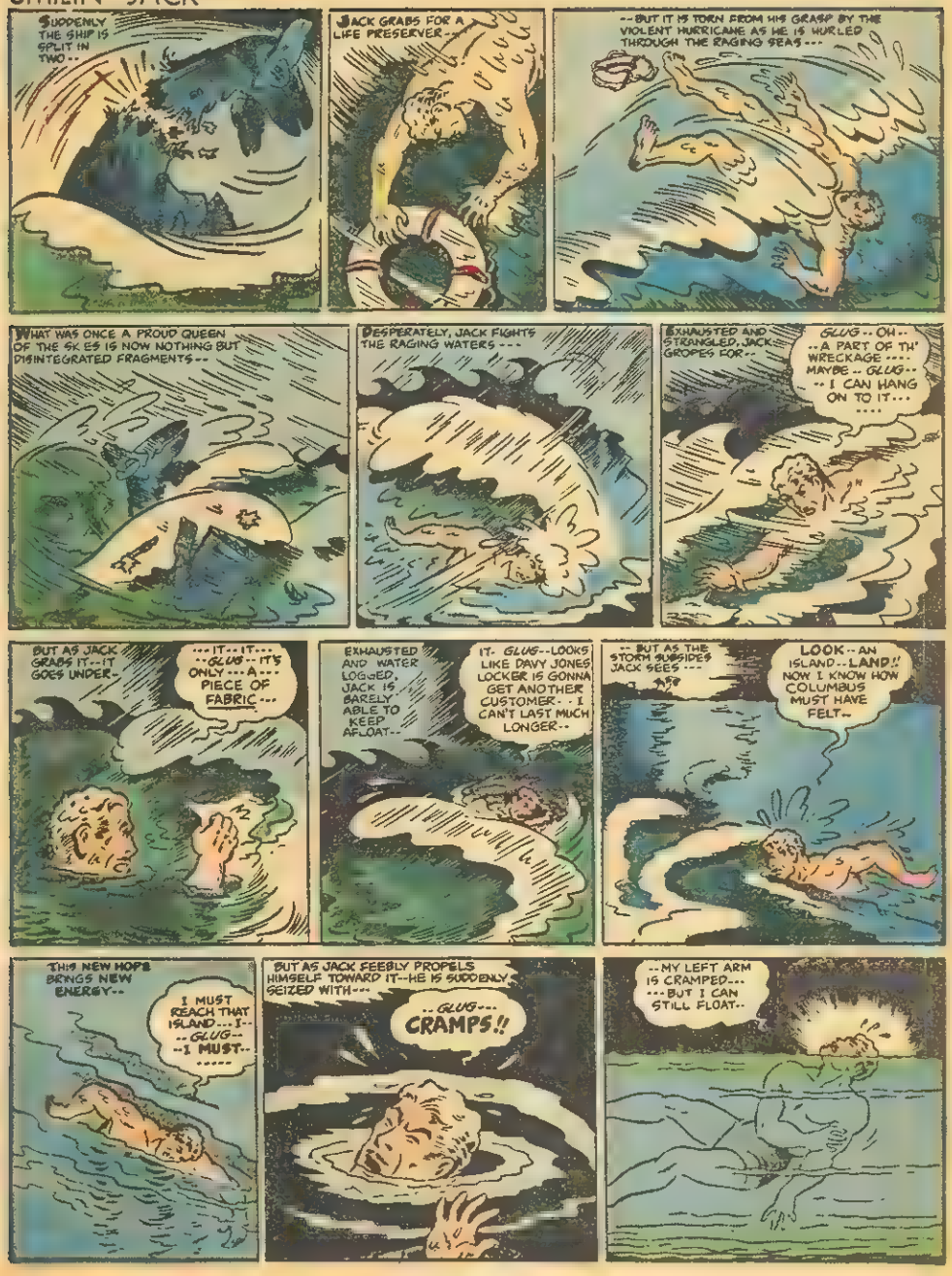




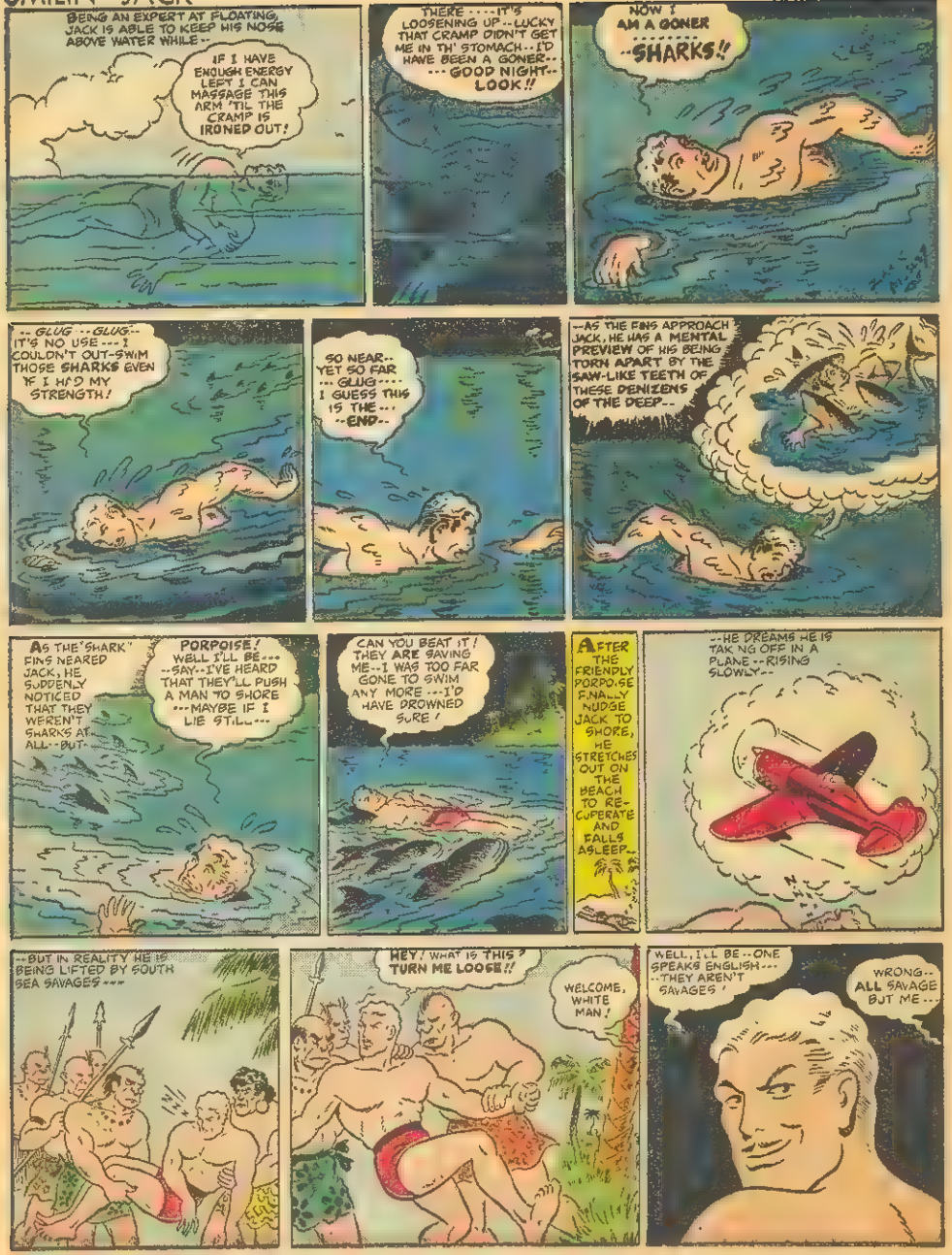
SUDDENLY A TROPICAL TYPHOON STRUCK WITH THE SPEED OF A SERPENT FORCING JACK AND HIS PLANE INTO THE OCEAN.



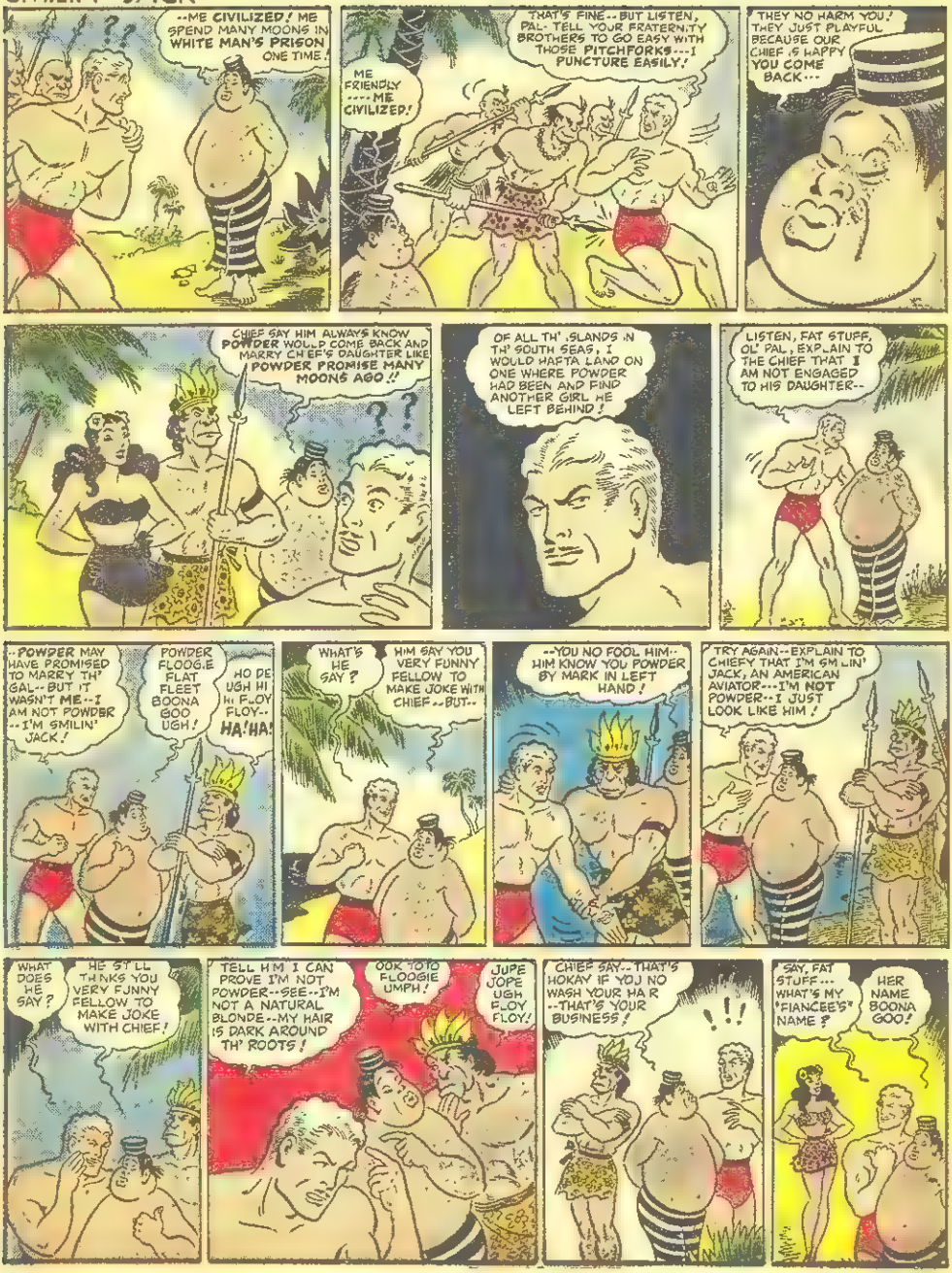
SMILIN' JACK


SUDDENLY THE SHIP IS SPLIT IN TWO--
JACK GRABS FOR A LIFE PRESERVER--
--BUT IT IS TORN FROM HIS GRASP BY THE VIOLENT HURRICANE AS HE IS HURLED THROUGH THE RAGING SEAS---
WHAT WAS ONCE A PROUD QUEEN OF THE SKIES IS NOW NOTHING BUT DISINTEGRATED FRAGMENTS--
DESPERATELY, JACK FIGHTS THE RAGING WATERS---
EXHAUSTED AND STRANGLED, JACK GROPES FOR--
GLUG--OH--
--A PART OF TH' WRECKAGE---- MAYBE--GLUG--
--I CAN HANG ON TO IT.....
BUT AS JACK GRABS IT--IT GOES UNDER--
...IT--IT...
--GLUG--IT'S ONLY...A... PIECE OF FABRIC...
EXHAUSTED AND WATER LOGGED, JACK IS BARELY ABLE TO KEEP AFLOAT--
IT- GLUG--LOOKS LIKE DAVY JONES LOCKER IS GONNA GET ANOTHER CUSTOMER--I CAN'T LAST MUCH LONGER--
--BUT AS THE STORM SUBSIDES JACK SEES---
LOOK--AN ISLAND--LAND!! NOW I KNOW HOW COLUMBUS MUST HAVE FELT--
THIS NEW HOPE BRINGS NEW ENERGY--
I MUST REACH THAT ISLAND...I-- --GLUG-- --I MUST--
BUT AS JACK FEEBLY PROPELS HIMSELF TOWARD IT--HE IS SUDDENLY SEIZED WITH---
--GLUG--- CRAMPS!!
--MY LEFT ARM IS CRAMPED--- ---BUT I CAN STILL FLOAT--

SMILIN' JACK


BEING AN EXPERT AT FLOATING, JACK IS ABLE TO KEEP HIS NOSE ABOVE WATER WHILE--
IF I HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY LEFT I CAN MASSAGE THIS ARM 'TIL THE CRAMP IS IRONED OUT!
THERE ----IT'S LOOSENING UP--LUCKY THAT CRAMP DIDN'T GET ME IN TH' STOMACH--I'D HAVE BEEN A GONER--
---GOOD NIGHT--LOOK!!
NOW I AM A GONER .....
--SHARKS!!
--GLUG--GLUG--IT'S NO USE--- I COULDN'T OUT-SWIM THOSE SHARKS EVEN IF I HAD MY STRENGTH!
SO NEAR--YET SO FAR ---GLUG---- I GUESS THIS IS THE--- --END--
--AS THE FINS APPROACH JACK, HE HAS A MENTAL PREVIEW OF HIS BEING TORN APART BY THE SAW-LIKE TEETH OF THESE DENIZENS OF THE DEEP--
AS THE "SHARK" FINS NEARED JACK, HE SUDDENLY NOTICED THAT THEY WEREN'T SHARKS AT ALL--BUT--
PORPOISE! WELL I'LL BE--- --SAY--I'VE HEARD THAT THEY'LL PUSH A MAN TO SHORE ---MAYBE IF I LIE STILL---
CAN YOU BEAT IT! THEY ARE SAVING ME--I WAS TOO FAR GONE TO SWIM ANY MORE ---I'D HAVE DROWNED SURE!
AFTER THE FRIENDLY PORPOISE FINALLY NUDGE JACK TO SHORE, HE STRETCHES OUT ON THE BEACH TO RECUPERATE AND FALLS ASLEEP--
--HE DREAMS HE IS TAKING OFF IN A PLANE--RISING SLOWLY---
--BUT IN REALITY HE IS BEING LIFTED BY SOUTH SEA SAVAGES---
HEY! WHAT IS THIS? TURN ME LOOSE!!
WELCOME, WHITE MAN!
WELL, I'LL BE--ONE SPEAKS ENGLISH--- --THEY AREN'T SAVAGES!
WRONG--ALL SAVAGE BUT ME---

SMILIN' JACK


--ME CIVILIZED! ME SPEND MANY MOONS IN WHITE MAN'S PRISON ONE TIME!
ME FRIENDLY ---- ME CIVILIZED!
THAT'S FINE--BUT LISTEN, PAL--TELL YOUR FRATERNITY BROTHERS TO GO EASY WITH THOSE PITCHFORKS---I PUNCTURE EASILY!
THEY NO HARM YOU! THEY JUST PLAYFUL BECAUSE OUR CHIEF IS HAPPY YOU COME BACK---
CHIEF SAY HIM ALWAYS KNOW POWDER WOULD COME BACK AND MARRY CHIEF'S DAUGHTER LIKE POWDER PROMISE MANY MOONS AGO!!
OF ALL TH' ISLANDS IN TH' SOUTH SEAS, I WOULD HAFTA LAND ON ONE WHERE POWDER HAD BEEN AND FIND ANOTHER GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND!
LISTEN, FAT STUFF, OL' PAL, EXPLAIN TO THE CHIEF THAT I AM NOT ENGAGED TO HIS DAUGHTER--
POWDER MAY HAVE PROMISED TO MARRY TH' GAL--BUT IT WASN'T ME--I AM NOT POWDER --I'M SMILIN' JACK!
POWDER FLOOG.E FLAT FLEET BOONA GOO UGH!
HO DE UGH HI HI FLOY FLOY--
HA!HA!
WHAT'S HE SAY?
HIM SAY YOU VERY FUNNY FELLOW TO MAKE JOKE WITH CHIEF--BUT--
--YOU NO FOOL HIM-- HIM KNOW YOU POWDER BY MARK IN LEFT HAND!
TRY AGAIN--EXPLAIN TO CHIEFY THAT I'M SMILIN' JACK, AN AMERICAN AVIATOR---I'M NOT POWDER--I JUST LOOK LIKE HIM!
WHAT DOES HE SAY?
HE S'LL THINKS YOU VERY FUNNY FELLOW TO MAKE JOKE WITH CHIEF!
TELL HIM I CAN PROVE I'M NOT POWDER--SEE--I'M NOT A NATURAL BLONDE--MY HAIR IS DARK AROUND TH' ROOTS!
OOK YOYO FLOOGIE UMPH!
JUPE JOPE UGH FLOY FLOY!
CHIEF SAY--THAT'S HOKAY IF YOU NO WASH YOUR HAIR --THAT'S YOUR BUSINESS!
!!!
SAY, FAT STUFF... WHAT'S MY "FIANCEE'S" NAME?
HER NAME BOONA GOO!

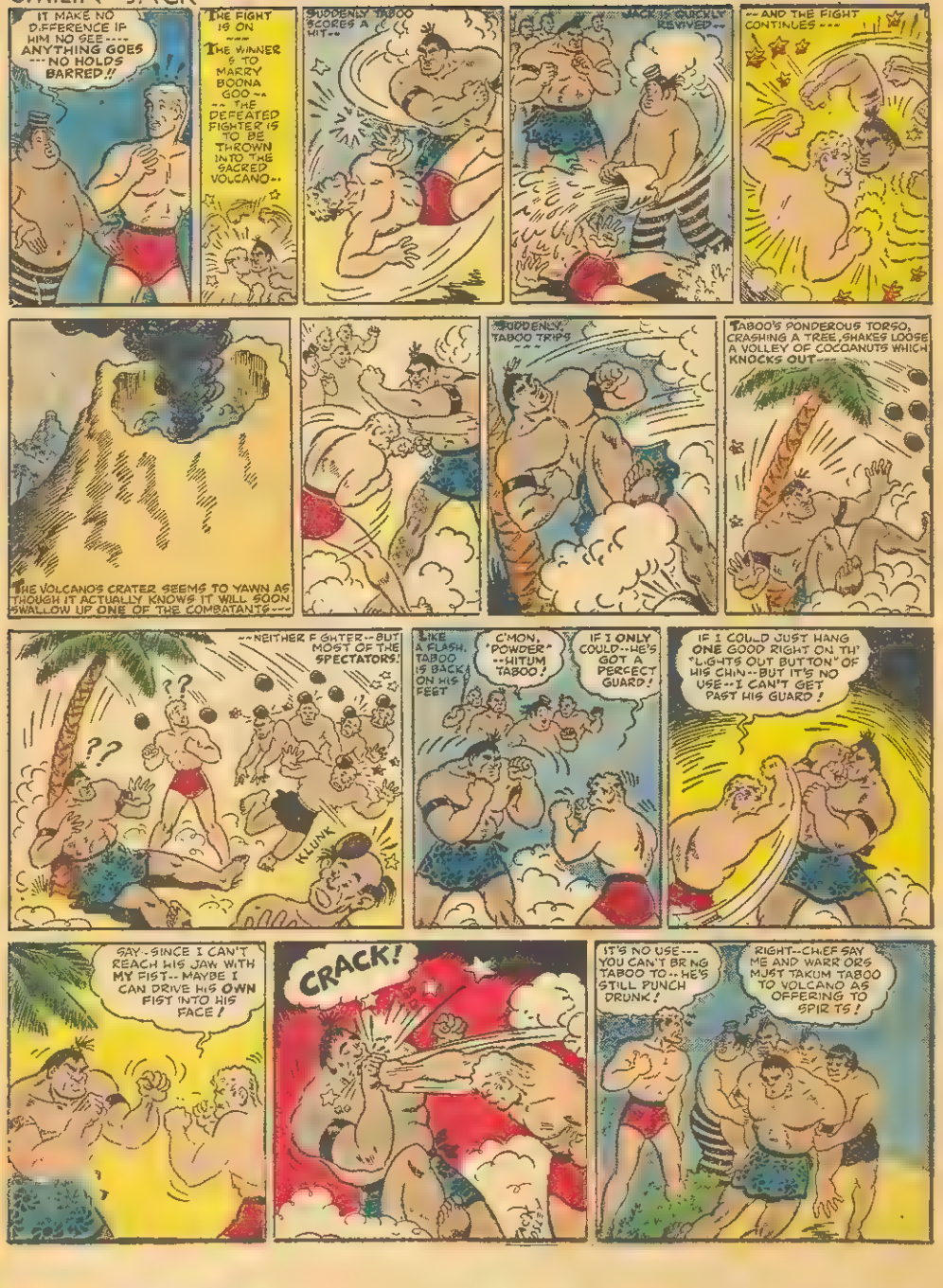
SMILIN' JACK

I WAS AFRAID IT'D BE SOMETHING LIKE THAT --WHAT'S IT MEAN ?
BOONA GOO IN OUR TALK MEAN LOVE BUG! HER LOVE ROMANCE--- MOONLIGHT--SERENADES
--YOU BETTER SERENADE HER TONIGHT OR CHIEF WILL GET MAD AT YOU AND THINK YOU NO LIKE HIS DAUGHTER!
THAT'S RIGHT--I WOULDN'T WANT TO GET OL' HATCHET-PUSS MAD AT ME--BUT HOW CAN I ? I HAVEN'T ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT!
ME HAVE PHONOGRAPH YOU CAN USE --ME GOT IT WHEN ME RETURN FROM WHITE MAN'S PRISON!
ME BRING RECORD TOO--- HEAR!
?!?
OOH THE LOVE BUG WILL GETCHA IF YA DON'T WATCH OUT
FAT STUFF, THANKS FOR PERSUADING THE CHIEF TO STOP FORCING ME TO TAKE SUN BATHS SO I'LL TURN BROWN----- --SAY--WHAT'S TH' CONSTRUCTION GANG BUILDING ?
--THEY BUILD BRIDAL HOUSE FOR YOU AND BOONA GOO!
LISTEN--THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH--TELL YOUR CHIEF THAT I DEFINITELY REFUSE TO MARRY HIS DAUGHTER!
ANYONE WHO REFUSE HONOR OF MARRY TO CHIEF'S DAUGHTER MAKE BIG INSULT!
WELL, I HATE TO INSULT HIS NIBS--BUT IF THAT'S TH' ONLY WAY OUT OF THIS MARRIAGE ---- START INSULTING!
WHITE ONE TALK LIKE CRAZY--ALL WHO INSULT CHIEF ARE GIVEN TO SACRED WAMBI!
THAT'D BE A PLEASURE--I DON'T MIND BEING GIVEN AWAY--WHO IS WAMB. ?
HIM SACRED WAMBI!
WELL, FAT STUFF, IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO WAY OUT OF THIS MARRIAGE --BUT SERIOUS AS IT IS I HAFTA LAUGH AT TH' IRONY OF IT!
ONE TIME IN MY LIFE I WANTED TO MARRY-- --BUT THE GIRL I LOVED, DIXIE LEE, THREW ME OVER --AND--
--NOW--THAT I DON'T WANT TO MARRY I'M BEING RAILROADED INTO WEDLOCK WITH A GIRL I DON'T EVEN KNOW OR LOVE---
ME NO UNDERSTAND!
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD--SAY, WHO'S THAT HUNK O' BOULDER DAM THERE TALKING TO TH' CHIEF ?
HIM NAME TABOO! STRONGEST MAN IN TRIBE--HIM LOVE BOONA GOO--HIM COME CHALLENGE YOU FIGHT FOR HER LOVE!
YOU MUST FIGHT TABOO TO SEE WHO MARRY BOONA GOO!
TELL HIM I'LL SAVE HIM THE TROUBLE OF A FIGHT--I'LL JUST MAKE HIM A PRESENT OF HER!
NO! A-WAYS LOVERS MUST FIGHT--CHIEF WOULD BE INSULT IF LOVERS NO FIGHT FOR LOVE OF HIS DAUGHTER AND---
--AND I KNOW ---IF CHIEFY IS INSULTED IT MEANS I'M TH' ENTREE ON TH' SACRED CROCODILE'S BILL OF FARE!

SMILIN' JACK

OKAY..TELL HIM I ACCEPT..BUT WE'RE L ABLE TO GET IN DUTCH WITH TH' BOX NG COMMISSION FOR STAG NG THIS BOUT W.THOLT THEIR SANCTION!
SAY..THIS IS A BREAK FOR ME! ALL I GOTTA DO IS LOSE AND I'LL ESCAPE MATRIMONY!
BUT, WHITE ONE, DO YOU NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPEN IF YOU LOSE? DEFEATED FIGHTER NO GOOD TO ANYONE--
--LOSER ALWAYS THROWN INTO VOLCANO!
SAY, FAT STUFF, WHY ALL TH' "GROCERIES"-- HAVE YOU OPENED UP A FRUIT STAND?
NO- ME LEARN MANY CUSTOMS OF CIVILIZED WH TE MAN WHEN ME STAY N WH TE MAN'S PRISON--ME OPEN UP BOOK.E BUS NESS -- THESE ARE BETS!
GO? WELL, HOW DO I RATE WHAT ARE THE ODDS?
MOST EVERYONE BET ON YOU TO WIN!
ME!? WELL, I MUST SAY IT'S QUITE A COMPLIMENT FOR TH' NATIVES TO PICK ME TO WIN TH' F.GHT AGAINST THE.R OWN MAN!
OH, THEY NO PICK YOU TO WIN FIGHT! THEY PICK YOU TO WIN RACE AFTER FIGHT START!!
WELL FAT STUFF, IF I'VE GOT TO FIGHT THAT WALKIN' P KE'S PEAK FOR BJONA GOD'S FA R HAND I'VE GOTTA BRUSH UP ON MY FIST.C TECHN QUE!
YOU CRAZY!? YOU FIGHT A.R NO ONE THERE!
THIS IS SHADOW BOXING, DOPE --IT'S GREAT FOR DEVELOPING SPEED AND FAST FOOT WORK!
MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO OUTMANEUVER THAT TWO LEGGED ROCK CRUSHER.... I'VE YET TO SEE A BIG SIDE OF QUARTER ROUND LIKE HM THAT WAS N.MBLE ON HIS FEET!
COME- MAYBE YOU LIKE WATCH TABOO TRA N TOO!
OKAY... NOTHING LIKE VISITING THE ENEMY'S TRA NING CAMP!
SEE TABOO NOT ONLY CHAMPION FIGHTER-- HM ALSO CHAMPION DANCER OF ISLAND!!
COME, WH TE ONE, CHIEF SAY T ME FOR BIG FIGHT!
SAY, HOW ABOUT ROUNDS? DOES TH S SOUTH SEA BOX NG COMM SSION OF YOURS HAVE ANY KIND OF RULES?
SURE, EVERY TIME ONE FIGHTER GET KNOCKED OUT WE POUR COCOANUT MILK ON HM 'TIL COME TO.... THEN FIGHT CONTINUE!
GULP! HOW LONG DOES A FIGHT USUALLY LAST?
FIGHT LAST 'TIL WE RUN OUT OF COCOA-NUT MILK IF FIGHTER NO DIE FIRST--HERE--MEET CHIEF'S GRAN'FATHER ---HIM REFEREE FIGHT!!
HIM SAY YOU COME CLOSE SO HIM CAN LOOK AT YOU-- HIM NO SEE GOOD!
WHAT! A BLIND MAN FOR REFEREE?

SMILIN' JACK


IT MAKE NO D-FFERENCE IF HIM NO SEE---- ANYTHING GOES --- NO HOLDS BARRED!!
THE FIGHT IS ON --- THE WINNER IS TO MARRY BOONA GOO -- --- THE DEFEATED FIGHTER IS TO BE THROWN INTO THE SACRED VOLCANO--
SUDDENLY TABOO SCORES A HIT--
JACK IS QUICKLY REVIVED--
--AND THE FIGHT CONTINUES ---
THE VOLCANOS CRATER SEEMS TO YAWN AS THOUGH IT ACTUALLY KNOWS IT WILL SOON SWALLOW UP ONE OF THE COMBATANTS---
SUDDENLY, TABOO TRIPS
TABOO'S PONDEROUS TORSO, CRASHING A TREE, SHAKES LOOSE A VOLLEY OF COCOANUTS WHICH KNOCKS OUT---
--NEITHER F GHTER--BUT MOST OF THE SPECTATORS!
KLUNK
LIKE A FLASH, TABOO IS BACK ON HIS FEET
C'MON, "POWDER" --HITUM TABOO!
IF I ONLY COULD--HE'S GOT A PERFECT GUARD!
IF I COULD JUST HANG ONE GOOD RIGHT ON TH' "LIGHTS OUT BUTTON" OF HIS CHIN--BUT IT'S NO USE--I CAN'T GET PAST HIS GUARD!
SAY--SINCE I CAN'T REACH HIS JAW WITH MY FIST-- MAYBE I CAN DRIVE HIS OWN FIST INTO HIS FACE!
CRACK!
IT'S NO USE--- YOU CAN'T BR NG TABOO TO--HE'S STILL PUNCH DRUNK!
RIGHT--CH-F SAY ME AND WARR ORS MJST TAKUM TABOO TO VOLCANO AS OFFERING TO SPIR TS!

SMILIN' JACK

UGH
UGH
UGH--FOOI HITI GURR--TABOO--HOIYO TOTA--UGH--PHOOT!!
ME AGREE WITH YOU--TABOO MUCH TOO HEAVY TO CARRY TO VOLCANO SPIRITS--IF THEY WANT TABOO BAD ENOUGH--
--LET VOLCANO SPIRITS COME CARRY HIM!!
"POWDER," CHIEF SAY EVERYBODY MAKE READY FOR WEDDING CEREMONY!
AGAIN I SAY I'M NOT POWDER--AN' I WILL NOT MARRY CHIEFY'S DAUGHTER--IF HE TRIES TO FORCE ME I'LL BEAT HIM UP WORSE THAN I DID TABOO!
WUG--TOTA FLOY FLOOGE POWDER--UGH USK?
HOO SLOOP TIGKET AMSKRAY UMPH!
WELL, WHAT'S HE GONNA DO ABOUT IT--DOES HE WANTA FIGHT?
NO--HIM SAY IT WOULD BE BENEATH HIM DIGNITY TO FIGHT WITH THE COMMON PEOPLE--BUT HIM--
--WILL MAKE SPEARMEN SEE THAT YOU MARRY HER!
GOOD NIGHT--IT'S NO USE! A SPEAR HEAD WEDDING--AND I'M STUCK WITH IT!
FAT STUFF, OL' PAL, SURELY YOU KNOW SOME WAY I CAN ESCAPE THIS WEDDING--
WHY YOU WANT ESCAPE? BOONA GOO BEAUTIFUL--THIS ISLAND WONDERFUL PLACE TO LIVE--PRETTY SCENERY--
--ROMANCE--SUNSHINE--EVERYONE HAPPY--PLENTY TO EAT--NO HURRY--LIVE EASY--NOT LIKE IN CIVILIZED COUNTRY WHERE--
--EVERYBODY HURRY--FIGHT TO MAKE LIVING--LIVE CROWDED UP IN BIG HUTS LIKE ANT HILL--PUSH--SHOVE--WORK HARD--DIE YOUNG--
--YOU CRAZY TO WANT TO GO BACK!
MAYBE YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING THERE, AT THAT, FAT STUFF!!
OKAY--I MAY AS WELL TRY TO RECONCILE MYSELF TO MY FATE--HEY, WHAT'S BOONA GOO SAYING?
POWDER, HOW YOU LIKE TRIBAL BR PEGROOM CLOTHES?
OOG WO-HITCH WUG TOTO WOO WOO!
HER SAY HER LOVE YOU AND HOPE HER WILL MAKE YOU GOOD WIFE!
SAY, IF I MUST MARRY HER I'M GONNA TEACH HER ENGLISH--YA CAN'T HAVE A WIFE YA CAN'T UNDERSTAND!
ME POWDER--I MEAN JACK! YOU BOONA GOO--
HITI TOTO.
WELL, HOW YOU MAKE OUT--DID YOU TEACHUM HER MUCH ENGLISH?
HITI TOTO TA ZUM--BOM ET TAA--OH--ER--GULP--I MEAN--

SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

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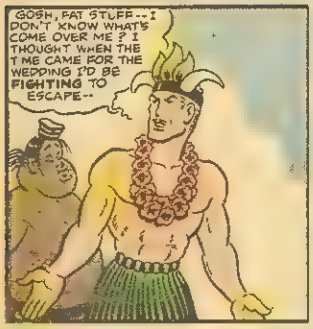
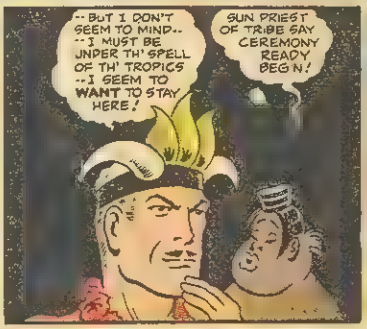
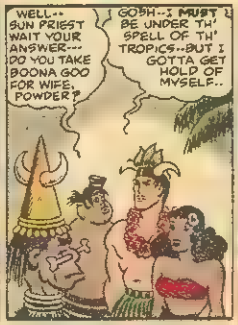
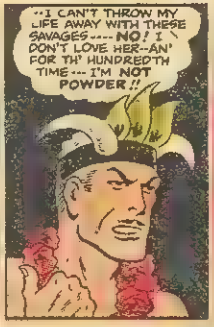
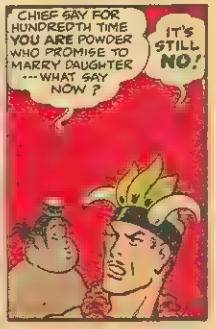
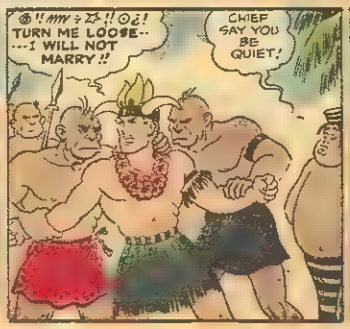



--BUT I DON'T SEEM TO MIND-- --I MUST BE UNDER TH' SPELL OF TH' TROPICS --I SEEM TO WANT TO STAY HERE!
SUN PRIEST OF TRIBE SAY CEREMONY READY BEG N!

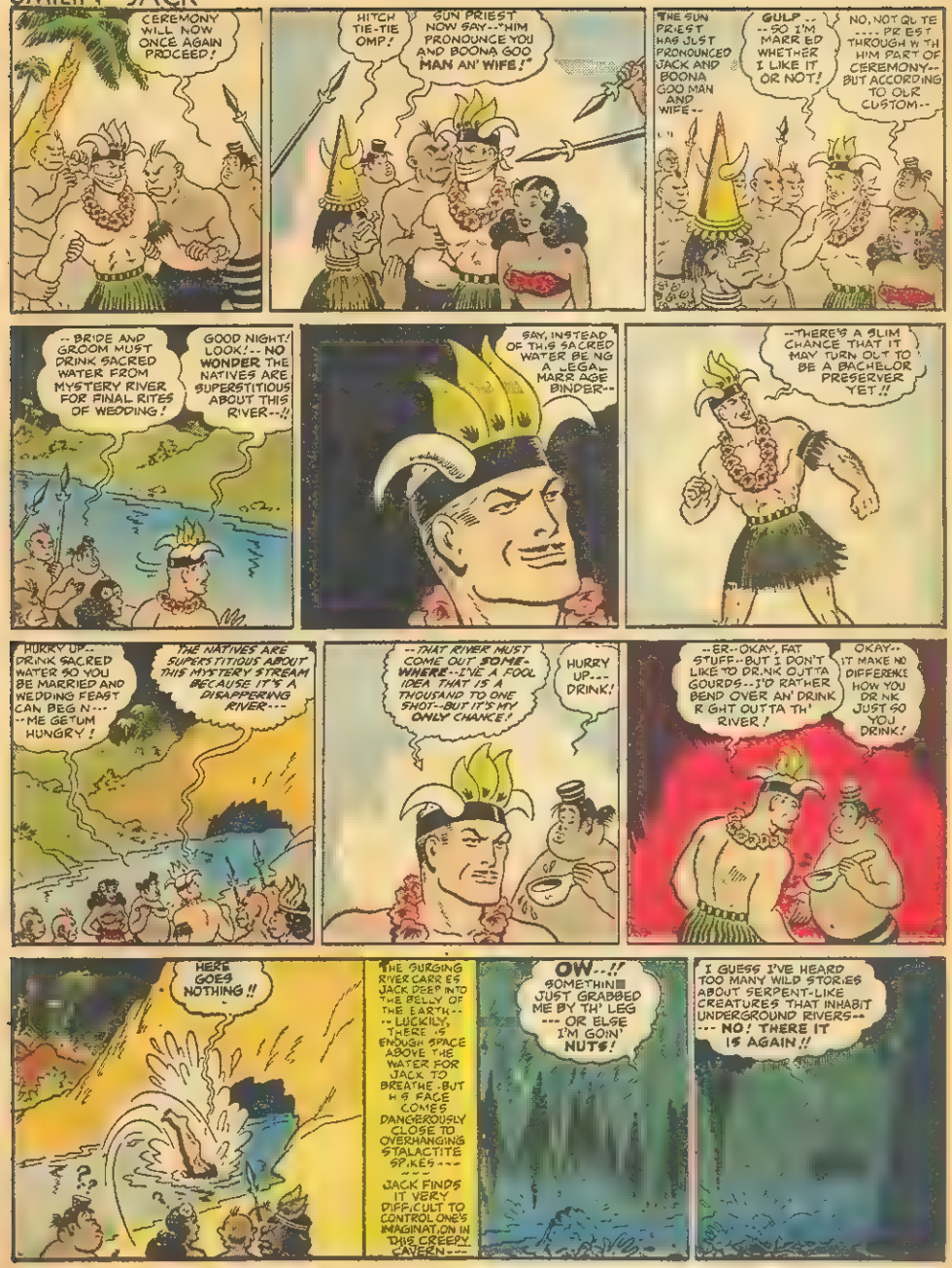

WELL-- SUN PRIEST WAIT YOUR ANSWER--- DO YOU TAKE BOONA GOO FOR WIFE, POWDER?
GOSH--I MUST BE UNDER TH' SPELL OF TH' TROPICS--BUT I GOTTA GET HOLD OF MYSELF..







SMILIN' JACK


CEREMONY WILL NOW ONCE AGAIN PROCEED!
HITCH TIE-TIE OMP!
SUN PRIEST NOW SAY--"HIM PRONOUNCE YOU AND BOONA GOO MAN AN' WIFE!"
THE SUN PRIEST HAS JUST PRONOUNCED JACK AND BOONA GOO MAN AND WIFE--
GULP -- --SO I'M MARR ED WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NOT!
NO, NOT QU TE ---- PR EST THROUGH W TH HIM PART OF CEREMONY-- BUT ACCORDING TO OUR CUSTOM--
-- BR'IDE AND GROOM MUST DRINK SACRED WATER FROM MYSTERY RIVER FOR FINAL RITES OF WEDDING!
GOOD NIGHT! LOOK!-- NO WONDER THE NATIVES ARE SUPERSTITIOUS ABOUT THIS RIVER--!!
SAY, INSTEAD OF THIS SACRED WATER BE NG A LEGAL MARR AGE BINDER--
--THERE'S A SLIM CHANCE THAT IT MAY TURN OUT TO BE A BACHELOR PRESERVER YET!!
HURRY UP-- DRINK SACRED WATER SO YOU BE MARRIED AND WEDDING FEAST CAN BEG N--- --ME GETUM HUNGRY!
THE NATIVES ARE SUPERSTITIOUS ABOUT THIS MYSTERY STREAM BECAUSE IT'S A DISAPPEARING RIVER---
--THAT RIVER MUST COME OUT SOME-WHERE--I'VE A FOOL IDEA THAT IS A THOUSAND TO ONE SHOT--BUT IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!
HURRY UP--- DRINK!
--ER--OKAY, FAT STUFF--BUT I DON'T LIKE TO DR.NK OUTTA GOURDS--I'D RATHER BEND OVER AN' DRINK R GHT OUTTA TH' RIVER!
OKAY-- IT MAKE NO DIFFERENCE HOW YOU DR NK JUST SO YOU DRINK!
HERE GOES NOTHING!!
THE SURGING RIVER CARR ES JACK DEEP INTO THE BELLY OF THE EARTH-- --LUCKILY, THERE IS ENOUGH SPACE ABOVE THE WATER FOR JACK TO BREATHE--BUT H S FACE COMES DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO OVERHANGING STALACTITE SP.KES---
JACK FINDS IT VERY DIFF.CULT TO CONTROL ONE'S IMAGINAT.ON IN THIS CREEPY CAVERN---
OW--!! SOMETHIN■ JUST GRABBED ME BY TH' LEG --- OR ELSE I'M GOIN' NUTS!
I GUESS I'VE HEARD TOO MANY WILD STORIES ABOUT SERPENT-LIKE CREATURES THAT INHABIT UNDERGROUND RIVERS-- --- NO! THERE IT IS AGAIN!!

SMILIN' JACK

--AND IT'S NO NIGHTMARE--- --IT'S ALIVE--IT'S --GLUG--GOT A STRANGLE HOLD --ON--ME---
-- WHAT KIND OF MONSTER IS THIS---IT'S GOT ARMS LIKE A MAN !! GLUG!
DESPERATELY JACK GRAPPLES WITH THE MYSTERIOUS MONSTER AS HE TRIES TO FREE HIMSELF FROM ITS VISE LIKE GRIP--
GULP.-WHAT KIND OF A DENIZEN OF TH' DEEP IS THIS-- IT'S GOT ARMS LIKE A MAN!!
GOOD NIGHT! IT IS A MAN--- IT'S FAT STUFF!
GLUG--HELP. RIVER SPIRITS GOTUM ME ME ON WAY TO OTHER WORLD --ME DEAD!
HERE NOW, FAT STUFF, TAKE IT EASY --WE AREN'T DEAD--WHAT HAPPENED?
WHEN RIVER SPIRITS GRAB YOU -ME TRY GRAB YOU, TOO--- BUT SPIRITS GOT ME!
SPIRITS HAVEN'T GOT US--I DIVED IN--AND YOU EVIDENTLY FELL IN.. -WE'RE OKAY------ LOOK! THERE'S DAYLIGHT AHEAD!
FAT STUFF! LOOK! A BOAT---- I MUST BE DREAMING!!
NO DREAM- IS BOAT--THEY COME THIS WAY--MAYBE THEY SEE US!
THEY HAVE SEEN US! THEY'RE LOWERING A BOAT!
WELL--WELL! IF IT ISN'T POWDER!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT --SAFE AT LAST!
WHAT TH'--AM I STILL TRAVELING IN POWDER'S WAKE? SORRY, FE...OW-- ---I'M NOT POWDER!!
HA! HA! NEXT YOU'LL BE TELLIN' ME THAT YOU'RE NOT TH' ESCAPED CONVICT WE'VE BEEN HUNTING FOR YEARS!
POWDER MAY HAVE BEEN AN ESCAPED CONVICT--- BUT I'M NOT POWDER--- --SAY, WHO ARE YOU?
HAVE YOU GONE NUTS? SURELY YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR OL' PAL, LIMEHOUSE-- CHIEF PRISON GUARD!!
I ALWAYS HOPED I'D HAVE THE PLEASURE OF CAPTURING OUR NUMBER ONE PRISONER SOME DAY!
NUMBER ONE EH? WELL, THAT'S SOMETHING! IF I'M A CONVICT, AT LEAST I'M NOT SMALL FRY!
SAY--WHY SO MUCH PERSONAL DELIGHT IN MY CAPTURE ??
AN' WHY NOT? AS CHIEF GUARD I WAS HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ESCAPE---
.....I WAS REPRIMANDED TO THE TUNE OF LOSING A MONTH'S PAY AND GETTING A DEMOTION IN RANK BUT--
-A GUARD'S VENGEANCE IS EASILY INFLICTED WHEN HE CAN PERSONALLY DIRECT TH' DESTINY OF TH' ONE WHO HAS WRONGED HIM!!

SMILIN' JACK

SAY, LIMEHOUSE --IF YOU'RE A PRISON GUARD, WHAT'RE YOU DOING ON THIS TRAMP STEAMER?
CONVICTS AREN'T TH' ONLY PEOPLE THAT TAKE VACATIONS!
WHAT A VACATION THIS IS --- CAPTURING YOU MAKES THIS A MOST PERFECT HOLIDAY!!
AW, WRITE THAT ON A POSTCARD --WHAT I WANTA KNOW IS-- SINCE YOU INSIST I'M A CON--WHAT AM I IN FOR?
READING YOUR PRISON RECORD IS LIKE REVIEWING A CRIME WAVE!
SO! SAY. JUST ONE MORE QUESTION ---WHAT PRISON ARE YOU TAKING ME TO?
YOU MUST BE CRAZY TO FORGET THE YEARS YOU SPENT ON DEATH ROCK!
DEATH ROCK!! WHY, THAT'S TH' WORLD'S MOST BRUTAL PRISON --TH' DEVIL'S ISLAND OF TH' SOUTH SEAS!!
SAY--THIS MUST BE HOME COMING WEEK --I WAS SO INTERESTED IN FINDING POWDER THAT I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE FAT STUFF---
--BUT I NEVER FORGET A FACE--OR STOMACH, I SHOULD SAY IN THIS CASE!
IS DEATH ROCK YOUR ALMA MATER, TOO?
SURE-- FAT STUFF GUEST ON DEATH ROCK MANY MOONS!
YES--AND IF YOU'LL RECALL, YOU STILL HAD QUITE A FEW MOONS TO GO WHEN YOU CHECKED OUT!
?
IT'S REMARKABLE HOW I REMEMBER TH' DETAILS OF SO MANY PRISONERS!
WELL--- HERE'S A DETAIL THAT'LL PROVE I'M NOT POWDER--SEE HOW DARK MY HAIR IS--I'M NOT A NATURAL BLONDE!
HO! HO! HO! AS IF YOU EVER WERE--- EVERY GUARD ON DEATH ROCK KNEW YOU STOLE BLEACH LOTIONS FROM THE WARDEN'S WIFE--YOU VAIN CUTIE!!
--DOOMED TO TH' FATE OF TH' LIVING DEAD--- --DEATH ROCK!! TH' INFERNO OF TH' TROPICS!
IS NO WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE GOING THERE?
NO, FAT STUFF, I'VE PLEADED WITH TH' CAPTAIN OF THIS SHIP TO RADIO WASHINGTON, D.C TO VERIFY MY STORY BUT NOW I'VE BEEN WORKING ON A SPY CASE FOR THE F.B.I.!!
--BUT HE JUST LAUGHS -- SAYS THAT'S TH' BEST ALIBI HE EVER HEARD FROM AN ESCAPED CONVICT--
--GREAT DAY! AM I TH' PRIZE SAP!! WHEN WE REACH DEATH ROCK PRISON IT'LL BE A CINCH TO PROVE I'M NOT POWDER!
FAT STUFF NO SEE---
FINGER PRINTS, POPEY---- FINGER PRINTS!
HEY! LIMEHOUSE!
MISTER LIMEHOUSE, TO YOU--GUARDS RESENT SUCH FAMILIARITY FROM PRISONERS!

SMILIN' JACK

OKAY MISTER LIMEHOUSE ' IS FOR NOW BUT I WON'T BE WHEN WE REACH DEATH ROCK '
WHAT ARE YOU DRIVING AT, POWDER ?
FINGER PRINTS, STUPID FINGER-PRINTS ' WHEN YOU COMPARE MINE WITH POWDER'S, YOU'LL SEE I'M NOT POWDER '
HO HO HO! THAT WON'T PROVE A THING "
WHADDYA MEAN ? ALL FINGER-PRINTS ARE DIFFERENT '
SURE BUT RECENTLY THERE WAS A FIRE IN TH' WARDEN'S OFFICE TH' FINGER PRINT FILES WERE DESTROYED
-- BUT YOUR MUG AND THAT TELL TALE BRAND ON YOUR HAND ARE ALL TH' PROOF WE NEED THAT YOU ARE POWDER !"
-- I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE OF THIS ' I'M NOT POWDER ' TALK. YOU'RE CAUGHT AND YOU MAY AS WELL FACE TH' FACTS !
YOUR PUNISHMENT FOR ESCAPE WILL BE UNBEARABLE -- NOT TO MENTION TH' YEARS YOU'LL GET TACKED ONTO YOUR SENTENCE --
BUT WORST OF ALL WILL BE TH' ADDED MISERY THAT I CAN INFLICT UPON YOU FOR THE JAM YOU GOT ME INTO BY ESCAPING !
WHEW ! IT LOOKS LIKE MY FUTURE IS GONNA HAVE A MIGHTY LOW CEILING !
YES YOUR LIFE WOULD BE A BOWL OF THORNS BUT I'M GOING TO FORGET TH' WHOLE THING !
WHAT ?
- AM I HEARING RIGHT DIE YOU SAY YOU'RE GOING TO DROP TH' MATTER LIMEHOUSE ?
COMPLETELY '
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE ! YOU INSIST I'M AN ESCAPED CONVICT AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA FORGET IT !?
RIGHT ! HERE'S SOME CLOTHES !
THANKS I'VE BEEN RUNNIN' AROUND IN SHORTS SO LONG I FEEL LIKE AN UNDER-WEAR AD SAY WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT ?
NOTHING --- I'VE JUST HAD A CHANGE OF HEART '
NATURALLY, I MUST KEEP YOU LOCKED IN OR IT WOULD APPEAR THAT I WASN'T DOING MY DUTY ---BUT---
--AFTER WE DOCK, YOU'LL BE FREE '
THERE'S SOME CATCH TO THIS "
LISTEN, LIMEHOUSE FUN'S FUN BUT WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO FREE ME ?
OH- I'M JUST A SOFT HEARTED BLOKE -- I HATED TO THINK OF HOW YOU'D SUFFER ON DEATH ROCK '
AW STOW IT ' YOU AREN'T KIDDING ME --- WHAT'S TH' GAG ?
NOTHING I'M GOING TO LET YOU GO FREE IF
IF ' THAT'S MORE LIKE I EXPECTED. NOW WHAT BE TH STRINGS TO T ?
WELL T'S THIS WAY REMEMBER TH PRISONER 'BUTCHER KNIFE BOODY' YOU MURDERED JUST BEFORE YOU ESCAPED ? WELL

SMILIN' JACK

YE GADS... NOW I'M A MURDERER!!
IT SN'T ON TH' PRISON RECORDS THAT YOU MURDERED "BUTCHER KNIFE BOODY" - BUT VIA PRISON GRAPE-VINE I LEARNED THAT YOU DID IT!
WELL WHY? DON'T KEEP ME IN SUSPENSE.. I'M VERY INTERESTED IN MY PAST!
A-SO I KNOW WHY-
DON'T PLAY INNOCENT - I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE MAP YOU TOOK FROM HIM!
OH! YOU MEAN THAT JERSEY ROAD MAP - SURE, I ALWAYS MURDER WHEN I TAKE A FANCY TO A GUY'S ROAD MAP"
HA' HA' IF I HAD A MAP THAT SHOWED WHERE A FORTUNE WAS BURIED I'D TRY TO PASS IT OFF AS A JOKE, TOO"
WHICH NAME YOU USE FAT STUFF TO CALL YOU?
JACK - IT IS MY REAL HANDLE - BUT LIMEHOUSE SURE DOESN'T BELIEVE IT HE THINKS I'M POWDER, A CONVICT WHO MURDERED ANOTHER CON FOR A TREASURE MAP.
HE SAYS POWDER MEMORIZED AND DESTROYED THE MAP AND THEN ESCAPED!
LIMEHOUSE SAY HIM FOLLOWED POWDER TO JUNGLE WHERE TREASURE BURIED BUT BEFORE POWDER LOCATE IT POWDER FLEE BECAUSE OF OTHER GUARDS ON HIM TRAIL!
RIGHT! SO NOW LIMEHOUSE, CERTAIN THAT I AM POWDER, OFFERS NOT TO TAKE ME TO PRISON IF I'LL LEAD HIM TO TH GOLD!
WHY DON'T YOU PRETEND TO LEAD HIM TO IT AND MAYBE YOU GETUM CHANCE TO ESCAPE?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I INTEND TO DO - BUT GIVING THAT QUICK TRIGGERED FOX TH' BUSINESS SINGLE-HANDED WILL BE NO CINCH!
WELL ME HIS PRISONER TOO - ME WILL BE ALONG ALSO - SO ME WILL HELP YOU OVERPOWER HIM!
GOOD! MAYBE TH TWO OF US WILL HAVE A CHANCE - BUT IF WE FAIL IT'LL BE BARS AND STRIPES FOREVER!!
LIMEHOUSE GONNA BE MUCH TOUGH MONKEY TO ESCAPE FROM - BUT ME READY TO CHANCE ANYTHING TO KEEP FROM GOIN TO DEATH ROCK!
YOU SAID IT FAT STUFF - TH TWO OF US TOGETHER WILL HAVE A GOOD CHANCE TO OUTWIT AND OVERPOWER HIM!
POWDER! FAT STUFF! COME OUT - WE'RE DOCKING!
GOODBYE LIMEHOUSE HOPE YOU GET YOUR PRISONERS TO DEATH ROCK OKAY
DON'T WORRY, CAPTAIN - I WILL!
WELL BOYS. I HOPE YOU LIKE TH' AUTO I HIRED. FAT STUFF, ENJOY THE SCENERY WHILE YOU CAN YOU AREN'T GOING FAR!
WHAT HIM MEAN, POWDER?
I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY FAT STUFF BUT IT DOESN'T SOUND HEALTHY!"

SMILIN' JACK

WHAT DESOLATE WILDERNESS ..I GIVE FAT STUFF CREEP CREEPS!
HAVING A FORTY-FIVE TRAINED ON TH' BASE OF YOUR SKULL DOESN'T ADD ANY CHEERY NOTES, EITHER!
I KNOW LIMEHOUSE DOESN'T INTEND TO LET FAT STUFF IN ON HIS "TREASURE HUNT"--- FAT STUFF IS JUST IN HIS WAY!
STOP TH' CAR AND GET OUT--- FAT STUFF, WALK ABOUT FIFTY PACES AWAY FROM THE ROAD!
STOP IT, LIMEHOUSE --YOU CAN'T DO THIS!
SHUT UP OR YOU'LL BE WITH HIM--- I'M RUNNING THIS SHOW!
NOW KEEP YOUR BACK TO ME, FAT STUFF!!
SORRY TO DO THIS, FAT STUFF BUT WHERE A FORTUNE IS INVOLVED ONE CAN'T LET EVERYBODY IN ON IT!
WAIT, LIMEHOUSE! I'VE A BETTER IDEA---
WELL, SPEAK FAST--I'M IN A HURRY TO GET MY HANDS ON THAT GOLD!
THAT'S JUST IT --IT'S POSSIBLE THAT WE MAY NOT FIND THE TREASURE!
WE'D BETTER --OR YOU'LL BE..
I KNOW--BUT SOME ONE ELSE MAY HAVE FOUND TH' TREASURE ALREADY--SO WHY NOT KEEP AN ACE IN TH' HOLE--LEAVE FAT STUFF TIED UP IN SOME DESERTED HUT --THEN IF WE FAIL--
--YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO COLLECT A NICE REWARD BY RETURNING FAT STUFF TO PRISON--
M-M--THERE'S LOGIC IN WHAT YOU SAY--BUT REMEMBER--IN CASE YOU'RE CONTEMPLATING ANY TRICKS--THERE'S A FAT PRICE ON YOUR HEAD--DEAD OR ALIVE!!
AFTER LIMEHOUSE TIED FAT STUFF AND LEFT HIM IN A DESERTED HUT, ME AND JACK DROVE INTO THE JUNGLE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AND THEN PROCEEDED ON FOOT--
I'VE GOTTA ESCAPE FROM LIMEHOUSE BEFORE WE REACH THE SECTION WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO KNOW TH' LOCATION OF TH' TREASURE---
--BUT HOW'M I GONNA MAKE A BREAK? HE'S WATCHING ME LIKE A HAWK!
WELL, POWDER--- HOW 'BOUT GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS? DON'T BE PRETENDING YOU DON'T KNOW THIS IS TH' SECTION!
I KNOW THAT TREASURE IS SOMEWHERE WITHIN A FEW MILES OF HERE --BUT YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHERE!!
OH--WHY--SURE--IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I WAS HERE I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE TH' PLACE--
---- (GULP! WHAT I GOTTA DO SOME FAST THINKING AN' PERFECT ACTING!)
THERE--SEE THAT GIANT PALM? WELL--- ACCORDING TO 'BUTCHER KNIFE'S' MAP --YOU START THERE---

SMILIN' JACK

--WALK A STRAIGHT LINE TOWARD THAT TALL PEAK FOR NINETY PACES-- THEN A RIGHT TURN---
YES, YES.. WHAT NEXT?
--MM--IF I COULD ONLY STALL HIM 'TIL AFTER DARK I'D HAVE A MUCH BETTER CHANCE TO ESCAPE---
NOW FIFTY PACES--TO --TO--THAT SHARP ROCK!
YES--- --YES--IS THAT WHERE THE TREASURE IS ??
--ER--NO--WE HAFTA WAIT 'TIL AFTER DARK--LINE THIS ROCK UP WITH TH' NORTH STAR--AND THEN---
DARK, EH!? MM-- SAY, IF YOU'RE PLANNING A DOUBLE-CROSS YOUR OBITUARY IS AS GOOD AS WRITTEN RIGHT NOW!
JACK WATCHED IN VAIN FOR A CHANCE TO ESCAPE. ---- THE STARS CAME OUT AND JACK COULD DO NOTHING ELSE BUT LOCATE A FICTITIOUS SPOT AND START DIGGING ----
LOOK! I'VE FOUND TH' TREASURE!
YEAH-- WHERE?
HERE!
JACK DASHES FOR FREEDOM---
MOMENTARILY BLINDED BY THE DIRTY LIMEHOUSE RAG AMLESSLY AT THE HAZY FIGURE OF JACK--
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
--ONE BULLET ACCIDENTALLY FINDS ITS MARK--
O-OH! I'M SHOT!!
--I'M SHOT-- OH! MY LEG!!
DESPERATELY, JACK TRIES TO DRAG HIMSELF INTO THE DENSE UNDERGROWTH OF THE JUNGLE--
--BUT BEFORE JACK CAN HOE, LIMEHOUSE'S EYES HAVE CLEARED ENOUGH SO THAT--
OH--THERE YOU ARE-- NO LOW-LIFE PRISONER CAN DOUBLE-CROSS ME AN' GET AWAY WITH IT!
SAY YOUR PRAYERS, CONVICT-- AN AUTOMATIC IS ABOUT TO BE EMPTIED --IN YOUR FACE!!
WELL--WHAT ARE YOU WAITIN' FOR? GET IT OVER WITH--IT'LL BE BETTER THAN LIFE ON DEATH ROCK, ANYWAY!
MM--SHOOTING IS TOO EASY FOR YOU--I'D ENJOY WATCHING YOU DIE DAY BY DAY, IN A DUNGEON!
--AND WHILE YOU'RE SLOWLY ROTTING AWAY YOU'LL REALIZE HOW FOOLISH YOU WERE NOT TO LEAD ME TO THE TREASURE---YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER!

SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
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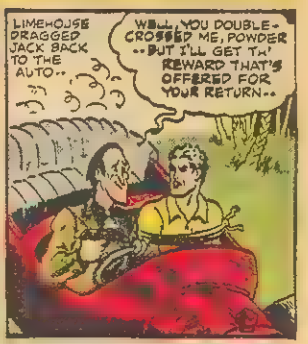
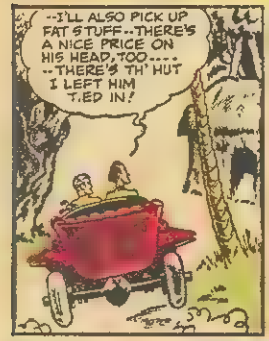
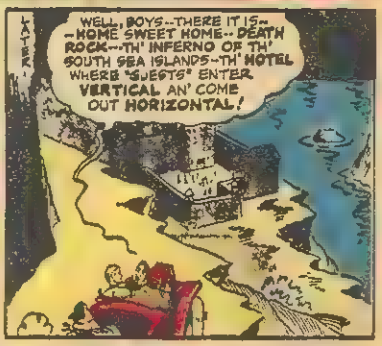
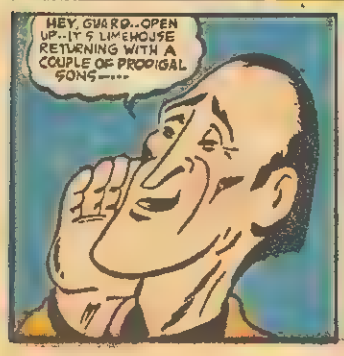
BEFORE YOU COMPLETELY LOSE YOUR MIND FROM THE ENDLESS NIGHTMARE OF LIVING WITH RATS AN' BATS IN A COLD, CLAMMY DUNGEON --YOU'LL NO DOUBT DECIDE TO TAKE ME TO TH' BURIED GOLD!


LIMEHOUSE DRAGGED JACK BACK TO THE AUTO--
WELL, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSED ME, POWDER --BUT I'LL GET TH' REWARD THAT'S OFFERED FOR YOUR RETURN--




LATER
WELL, BOYS--THERE IT IS--HOME SWEET HOME--DEATH ROCK--TH' INFERNO OF TH' SOUTH SEA ISLANDS--TH' HOTEL WHERE GUESTS' ENTER VERTICAL AN' COME OUT HORIZONTAL!



SMILIN' JACK

AS THE HUGE GATE CLOSES JACK'S LIFE IS SEALED AMONG THE LIVING — DEAD---
TAKEN BEFORE THE DEATH ROCK COMMANDANT, JACK AGAIN TRIED TO PROVE HIS REAL IDENTITY-
YOUR FINGER-PRINTS WERE AMONG THOSE DESTROYED BY FIRE--BUT YOUR FEATURES AND THAT BRAND ARE PROOF ENOUGH FOR ANY-ONE THAT YOU ARE POWDER!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH POWDER'S LEG, LIME-HOUSE?
OH, HE RESISTED ARREST AN' I HAD TO PLUG HIM!
JACK, WHY YOU NO TELL COMMANDANT HOW LIMEHOUSE TRY TO BRIBE YOU BY OFFERING YOU FREEDOM FOR BURIED TREASURE?
WHAT'S TH' USE, FAT STUFF? A CONVICT'S WORD IS WORTHLESS AGAINST A GUARD!
COMMANDANT, THE PRISON DOCTOR DRESSED POWDER'S LEG--HE SAYS IT'LL BE OKAY--JUST A FLESH WOUND!
GOOD--THROW POWDER IN THE BULL PEN WITH TH' REST OF TH' CONVICTS THAT ARE AWAITING TRIAL FOR ESCAPES!
THE PRISON FINGER PRINT FILES HAVING BEEN DESTROYED BY FIRE, JACK CAN NOT PROVE HE IS NOT POWDER--
HIS FEATURES AND THE BRAND ON HIS HAND ARE PROOF ENOUGH TO PRISON AUTHORITIES THAT HE IS POWDER--SO HE IS JAMMED INTO THE BULL PEN TO AWAIT TRIAL FOR ESCAPING--
WHAT A REPUTATION POWDER LEFT FOR ME--NEARLY EVERY "BROTHER" IN THIS "FRATERNITY" IS HIS ENEMY!
WHAT PRETTY TRESSES, POWDER--IT'S A SHAME THEY'RE GONNA SHAVE YOUR HEAD!
LET ME AT POWDER, SLAB! I'M GONNA GET EVEN WIT HIM FOR DE TIME HE MOIDERED ME PAL!!
WAIT, LIZARD--IF WE START ANOTHER RUMPUS TH' GUARDS'LL TURN SCALDING WATER ON US SURE!
--WE'LL HAVE A MUCH BETTER CHANCE TO SETTLE WITH POWDER AFTER WE'RE BACK IN TH' PRISON CAMP!
YEAH--DE GUARDS AIN'T SO WATCHFUL DARE--YA CAN DO ANY TING YA LIKE TO POWDER DEN--BUT REMEMBER ONE TING----
--NO FAIR KILLIN' HIM 'TIL WE'VE ALL HAD OUR TOIN AT GETTIN' EVEN WIT HIM!!
PARDON ME, GENT-LEMEN'--TH' PRISON TRIBUNAL AWAITS YOUR AUGUST PRESENCE!
TH' FIRST ON DOCKET IS OUR GUEST OF HONOR--POWDER! CONVICT NUMBER M-6000!
M-6000! POWDER MUST HAVE A DRAG WIT DE AUTHORITIES TO RATE SUCH A DISTINCTIVE NUMBER!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY, LIME-HOUSE?
WON'T YOU LOOK CUTE WITH YOUR HEAD SHAVED--COME--TH' COURT IS WAITING!
CONVICT M-6000--THE COURT INCREASES YOUR TERM OF TEN YEARS TO TWENTY--AND SENTENCES YOU TO HARD LABOR IN OUR SULPHUR MINES FOR ESCAPING--NEXT---

SMILIN' JACK

SOUTH SEA SULPHUR MINES! CONVICTS DIE BY TH' SCORES FROM TH' TERRIFFIC HEAT IN THOSE FURNACES!!
IT ISN'T TH' HEAT THAT GETS YOU AS MUCH AS IT IS TH' SULPHUR DUST YOU BREATHE!
POWDER, STEP INTO OUR HABERDASHERY DEPARTMENT--WE WANT YOU TO TRY ON OUR NEW LINE OF FALL CLOTHES--OH, LEONARD--FERGUS--HERE'S A CUSTOMER!
I SIMPLY ADORE THIS SINGLE BREASTED, THREE BUTTON NUMBER--STRIPES ARE SO BECOMING TO YOU!
--NOW IF YOU DON'T MIND, MAY I RETIRE TO MY SUITE IN TH' BLOCKHOUSE AND CURL UP WITH A NICE LEG-IRON?
NOT SO FAST, MY GOOD MAN--YOU HAVEN'T VISITED YE PRISON BEAUTY SHOPPE YET--
--OH, LE MEUIX, OUR FRIEND, POWDER, WANTS ONE OF YOUR STREAMLINED, AIR-COND'T ONED HEAD SHAVES!
OUI-OUI, MONSIEUR LIMEHOUSE--I WEEL GEEVE HEEM ZE DOOR KNOB SPECIAL!!
WHY ALL TH' ARM-CHAR BRACLETS ?!?
THAT'S JUST IN CASE YOU SHOULD SUDDENLY BECOME FOND OF MONSIEUR LE MEUIX'S RAZOR AND TRY TO GRAB IT!
AH--RIGHT DOWN TH' OLD FAIRWAY--YOUR TECHNIQUE IS SUPERB, LE MEUIX!
JUST WHY ARE YOU CROPPING ME--? I NOTICE SOME OF TH' OTHER CONS STILL HAVE THEIR TRESSES!!
OH--THIS SERVICE IS ONLY FOR SPECIAL GUESTS--TH' ONES WHO ARE MOST LIKELY TO TRY TO CHECK OUT WITHOUT PERMISSION--
--DID YOU EVER NOTICE HOW A BILLIARD BALL SHINES WHEN YOU TURN A FLASH LIGHT ON IT? WELL, SUPPOSE THERE WAS A PRISON BREAK----
--THINK HOW A GUARD'S MARKSMANSHIP WOULD BE AIDED WHEN TH' PRISON SEARCHLIGHTS BEAMED UPON YOUR GLISTENING DOME!!
WHEW! MINING SULPHUR MUCH HARD WORK--- NO FUN, JACK!
YOU SAID IT, FAT STUFF--ESPECIALLY WHEN TH' SULPHUR IS EMBEDDED IN ROCK LIKE IT IS HERE IN TH' VOLCANIC REGIONS!
FOR A GUY THAT HASN'T DONE ANY HARDER WORK FOR TH' LAST FEW YEARS THAN JUGGLE A CONTROL-STICK--THIS IS NO PICNIC!!
FAT STUFF BACK HURTUM MUCH--
YOU AN' ME BOTH --AN' I USED TO THINK I WAS TIRED AFTER EIGHTEEN HOLES OF GOLF-- --WHEW--I'VE JUST GOTTA REST A SECOND!
HEY, YOU LOAFERS --GET TO WORK!
PSST--LIZARD! POWDER AIN'T USED TO SWINGING A PICK ALL DAY --LOOK AT HIS MITTS!!
YEAH, SLAB--DEM BLISTERED HANDS OF HIS GIVES ME AN IDEA--ANY DAY NOW, WE CAN START GETTIN' EVEN WIT HIM!
ALMOST FRYING IN THE TERRIFIC HEAT, JACK, SLAVES ON IN THE DUST FILLED SULPHUR QUARRY ... THINKING THE DAY WILL NEVER END--
FINALLY --THE WHISTLE BLOWS

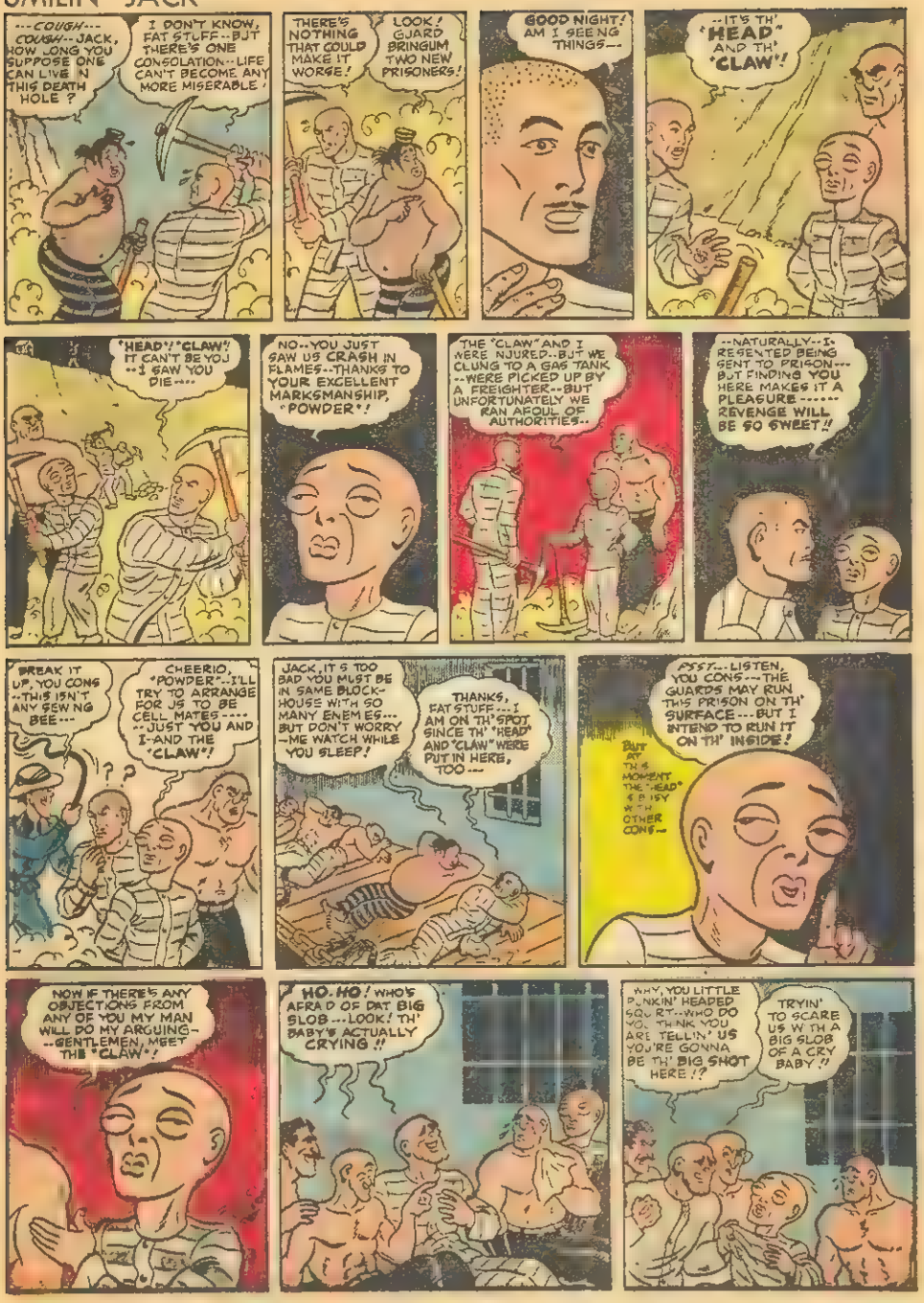
SMILIN' JACK

WHEW! ANOTHER DAY GONE---ONLY NINETEEN YEARS, THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE DAYS LEFT TO GO!
I HOPE TH' WORK ISN'T TOO STRENUOUS FOR YOU, POWDER -- YOU LOOK A LITTLE FAT GUED--BUT YOU'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER AFTER A HEARTY MEAL--THIS IS A SPECIAL DIET DAY---
--YOU EACH GET ONE SLICE OF BREAD AN' A CUP OF WATER FOR DINNER!
!!
JACK YOU CAN'T STAND THIS TROPICAL SUN--WHERE'S YOUR SHIRT?
SOME LOUSE STOLE IT--IN ME HOUSE WON'T ISSUE ME ANOTHER--ANY KIND OF CLOTHES ARE AT A PREMIUM HERE----GOSH, I FEEL DIZZY!!
SUN BURN YOU UP--YOU'LL PASS OUT---- GETUM SUN SICKNESS--- HERE--WEAR MY SHIRT!
THANKS--BUT I WOULDN'T TAKE TH' SHIRT OFF A MAN'S BACK!
HERE--YOU MUST TAKE IT-- SUN NO BOTHER ME--ME GROW UP NAKED IN TROPICS!
YOU'RE AN ANGEL FAT STUFF--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE SENT TO PRISON FOR --- BUT IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN VERY BAD!
BY TH' WAY--WHAT WERE YOU SENT UP FOR?
ME OFTEN WONDERED ABOUT THAT---COULDN'T FIND OUT---ME NO SPOKE ENGLISH AT TH' TIME!
LOOK AT POWDER'S HANDS, LIZARD---- THAT PICK HANDLE IS REALLY MESSIN' 'EM UP!
YEAH, SLAB --THEY LOOK BLISTERED AN' RAW ENOUGH FOR ME TO START MY SWEET REVENGE NOW!
PSST--WOT IS DIS IDEA YOU HAVE?
SEE DIS LITTLE BOTTLE--I BRIBED A GUARD TO GET IT FOR ME---
--PSST--IT CONTAINS ACID --- SO WHEN POWDER AIN'T LOOKIN' I'LL POUR IT ON HIS PICK HANDLE--
PSST--I GETCHA ---WHEN HE PICKS IT UP WITH HIS RAW HANDS---- WOW!
PSST---LIZARD! NOW'S YOUR CHANCE-- POWDER AIN'T LOOKIN'--TH' WATER BOY IS GIVIN' HIM A DRINK!
GOOD--I'LL POUR TH' ACID ON HIS PICK HANDLE NOW---
--WHEN POWDER GRABS DIS WIT HIS SORE HANDS HE'LL TINK HE'S GOT AHOLD OF DE HOT SEAT!!
POWDER! QUICK! GET TO WORK--HERE COMES A GUARD--- --GRAB YOUR PICK!!

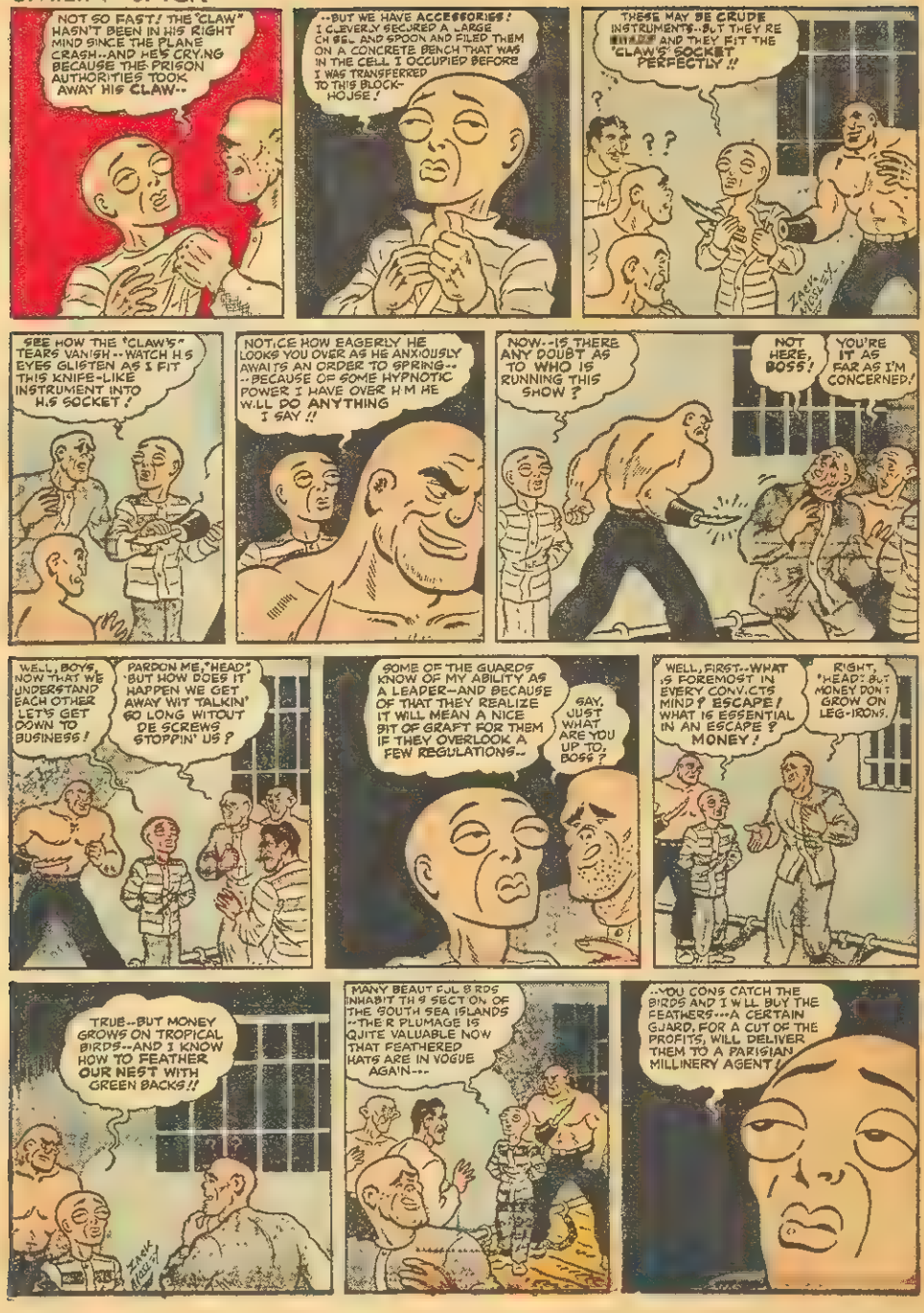
SMILIN' JACK

FORTUNATELY, FAT STUFF SAW LIZARD POUR THE ACID ON 'POWDER'S' PICK HANDLE ... AND JUST AS 'POWDER' WAS ABOUT TO GRAB IT ---
DON'T TOUCH PICK!
--WHY YOU DIRTY LITTLE MEDDLER-- I'LL TEACH YOU TO SPOIL MY PLANS...
YOU'LL HIT MY PAL, WILL YOU?
STOP IT, YOU VARMINTS
POWDER STARTED THIS RIOT!
THAT'S RIGHT, LIME-HOUSE!
I KNOW--I SA, --M-- --MM--WELL, POWDER, ACCORDING TO OUR NEW PENAL CODE, INCITING A RIOT ADDS TWO MORE YEARS TO YOUR TERM--PLUS THE LOSS OF ONE MEAL PER DAY FOR A MONTH!
SAY, FAT STUFF--I MUST BE GOIN' NUTS FROM TH' HEAT--I'M HAVIN' ILLUSIONS-- --I SEE A PLANE...
YOU NO NUTS--IT IS PLANE.. COME BY THIS ISLAND EVERY WEEK!
SAY, IT'S A PAC FIC CLIPPER JUST TH NK- IT'LL BE N CALIFORNIA FOR XMAS--WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO BE ON THAT BABY!
FROM SAN FRANCISCO I COULD AIRLINE TO MIAMI IN TIME FOR TH' ALL AMERICAN AIR RACES TH' FIRST WEEK IN JANUARY..
--HOW I'D LOVE TO BE THERE ZOOMIN' AROUND PYLONS IN A LITTLE CLIPPED-WING JOB-- S.TTIN' BEHIND A TWIN-ROW WASP OR A THOUSAND HORSE-POWER CYCLONE, FAT STUFF!
GET BUSY--OR YOU'LL THINK A THOUSAND HORSE POWER WASP HAS HIT TH' SEAT OF YOUR PANTS---YOU LOAFER!
WHAT TROUBLE, JACK?
COUGH--COUGH-- --IT'S THIS SULPHUR DUST--MY LUNGS FEEL LIKE THEY'RE ON FIRE!
MINE, TOO-- SULPHUR DUST MUCH BAD FOR BREATHE--- --COUGH---
LOOK! ONE CONVICT FELL!
POOR DEVIL--- WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
NOTHING--HE'S JUST DEAD---- ANOTHER WEAKLING THAT COULDN'T STAND TH' SULPHUR DUST---GET BACK TO WORK SO NE GUARDS CAN GET BACK TO OUR POSTS ON TH BANK--- WHERE TH' AIR IS FRESH!!

SMILIN' JACK


---COUGH---COUGH--JACK, HOW LONG YOU SUPPOSE ONE CAN LIVE IN THIS DEATH HOLE ?
I DON'T KNOW, FAT STUFF--BUT THERE'S ONE CONSOLATION--LIFE CAN'T BECOME ANY MORE MISERABLE !
THERE'S NOTHING THAT COULD MAKE IT WORSE !
LOOK ! GUARD BRINGUM TWO NEW PRISONERS !
GOOD NIGHT ! AM I SEEING THINGS---
--IT'S TH' "HEAD" AND TH' "CLAW"!
"HEAD" ! "CLAW" ! IT CAN'T BE YOU --I SAW YOU DIE----
NO--YOU JUST SAW US CRASH IN FLAMES--THANKS TO YOUR EXCELLENT MARKSMANSHIP, "POWDER" !
THE "CLAW" AND I WERE INJURED--BUT WE CLUNG TO A GAS TANK --WERE PICKED UP BY A FREIGHTER--BUT UNFORTUNATELY WE RAN AFOUL OF AUTHORITIES--
--NATURALLY--I RESENTED BEING SENT TO PRISON--- BUT FINDING YOU HERE MAKES IT A PLEASURE ------ REVENGE WILL BE SO SWEET !!
BREAK IT UP, YOU CONS --THIS ISN'T ANY SEWING BEE---
CHEERIO, "POWDER"--I'LL TRY TO ARRANGE FOR US TO BE CELL MATES---- --JUST YOU AND I-AND THE "CLAW" !
JACK, IT'S TOO BAD YOU MUST BE IN SAME BLOCK-HOUSE WITH SO MANY ENEMIES--- BUT DON'T WORRY --ME WATCH WHILE YOU SLEEP !
THANKS, FAT STUFF---I AM ON TH' SPOT, SINCE TH' "HEAD" AND "CLAW" WERE PUT IN HERE, TOO ---
PSST--LISTEN, YOU CONS---THE GUARDS MAY RUN THIS PRISON ON TH' SURFACE---BUT I INTEND TO RUN IT ON TH' INSIDE !
BUT AT THIS MOMENT THE "HEAD" IS BUSY WITH OTHER CONS--
NOW IF THERE'S ANY OBJECTIONS FROM ANY OF YOU MY MAN WILL DO MY ARGUING--GENTLEMEN, MEET THE "CLAW" !
HO-HO ! WHO'S AFRAID OF DAT BIG SLOB--LOOK ! TH' BABY'S ACTUALLY CRYING !!
WHY, YOU LITTLE PUNKIN' HEADED SQUIRT--WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE TELLIN' US YOU'RE GONNA BE TH' BIG SHOT HERE !?
TRYIN' TO SCARE US WITH A BIG SLOB OF A CRY BABY !!

'SMILIN' JACK

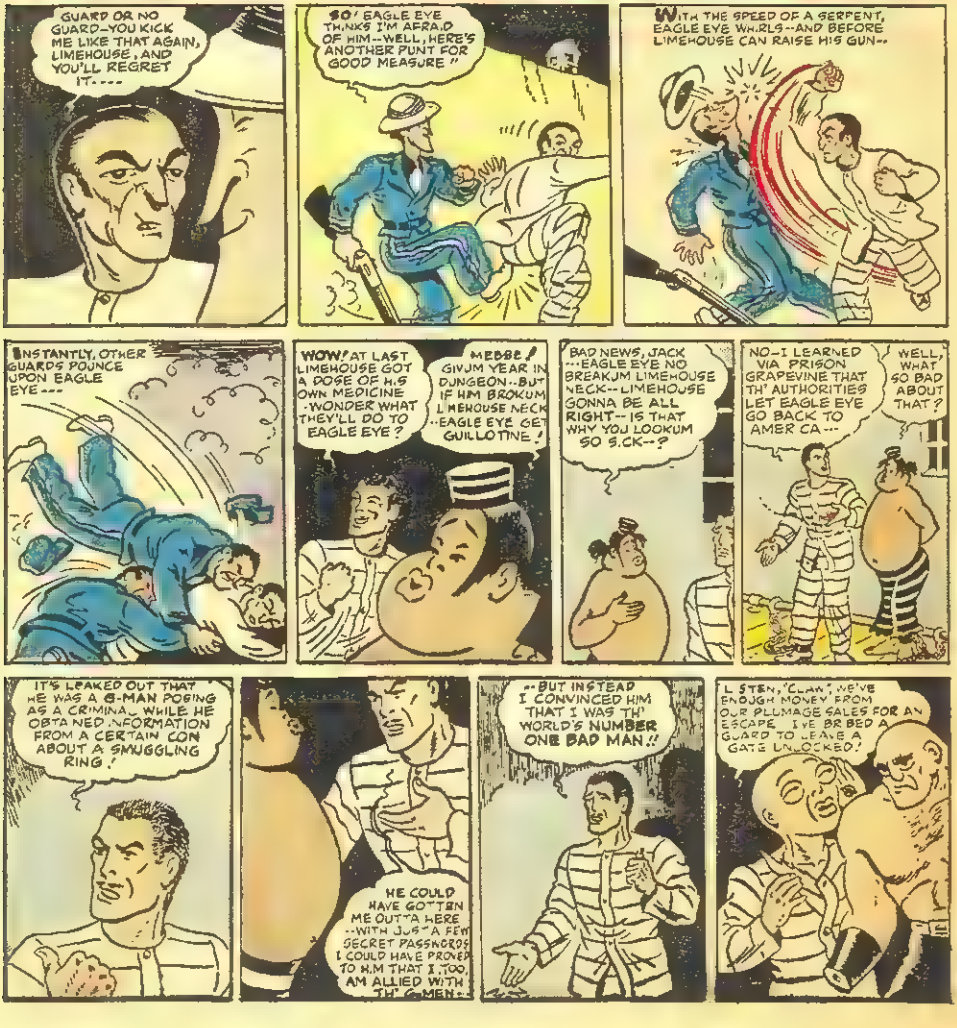

NOT SO FAST! THE "CLAW" HASN'T BEEN IN HIS RIGHT MIND SINCE THE PLANE CRASH--AND HE'S CRYING BECAUSE THE PRISON AUTHORITIES TOOK AWAY HIS CLAW--
--BUT WE HAVE ACCESSORIES! I CLEVERLY SECURED A LARGE CHISEL AND SPOON AND FILED THEM ON A CONCRETE BENCH THAT WAS IN THE CELL I OCCUPIED BEFORE I WAS TRANSFERRED TO THIS BLOCK-HOUSE!
THESE MAY BE CRUDE INSTRUMENTS--BUT THEY RE [illegible] AND THEY FIT THE "CLAW'S" SOCKET PERFECTLY!!
SEE HOW THE "CLAW'S" TEARS VANISH--WATCH HIS EYES GLISTEN AS I FIT THIS KNIFE-LIKE INSTRUMENT INTO HIS SOCKET!
NOTICE HOW EAGERLY HE LOOKS YOU OVER AS HE ANXIOUSLY AWAITS AN ORDER TO SPRING--BECAUSE OF SOME HYPNOTIC POWER I HAVE OVER HIM HE WILL DO ANYTHING I SAY!!
NOW--IS THERE ANY DOUBT AS TO WHO IS RUNNING THIS SHOW?
NOT HERE, BOSS!
YOU'RE IT AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED!
WELL, BOYS, NOW THAT WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!
PARDON ME, "HEAD"; BUT HOW DOES IT HAPPEN WE GET AWAY WIT TALKIN' SO LONG WITOUT DE SCREWS STOPPIN' US?
SOME OF THE GUARDS KNOW OF MY ABILITY AS A LEADER--AND BECAUSE OF THAT THEY REALIZE IT WILL MEAN A NICE BIT OF GRAFT FOR THEM IF THEY OVERLOOK A FEW REGULATIONS--
SAY, JUST WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, BOSS?
WELL, FIRST--WHAT IS FOREMOST IN EVERY CONVICTS MIND? ESCAPE! WHAT IS ESSENTIAL IN AN ESCAPE? MONEY!
RIGHT, "HEAD"; BUT MONEY DON'T GROW ON LEG-IRONS.
TRUE--BUT MONEY GROWS ON TROPICAL BIRDS--AND I KNOW HOW TO FEATHER OUR NEST WITH GREEN BACKS!!
MANY BEAUTIFUL BIRDS INHABIT THIS SECTION OF THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS --THEIR PLUMAGE IS QUITE VALUABLE NOW THAT FEATHERED HATS ARE IN VOGUE AGAIN--
--YOU CONS CATCH THE BIRDS AND I WILL BUY THE FEATHERS--A CERTAIN GUARD, FOR A CUT OF THE PROFITS, WILL DELIVER THEM TO A PARISIAN MILLINERY AGENT!

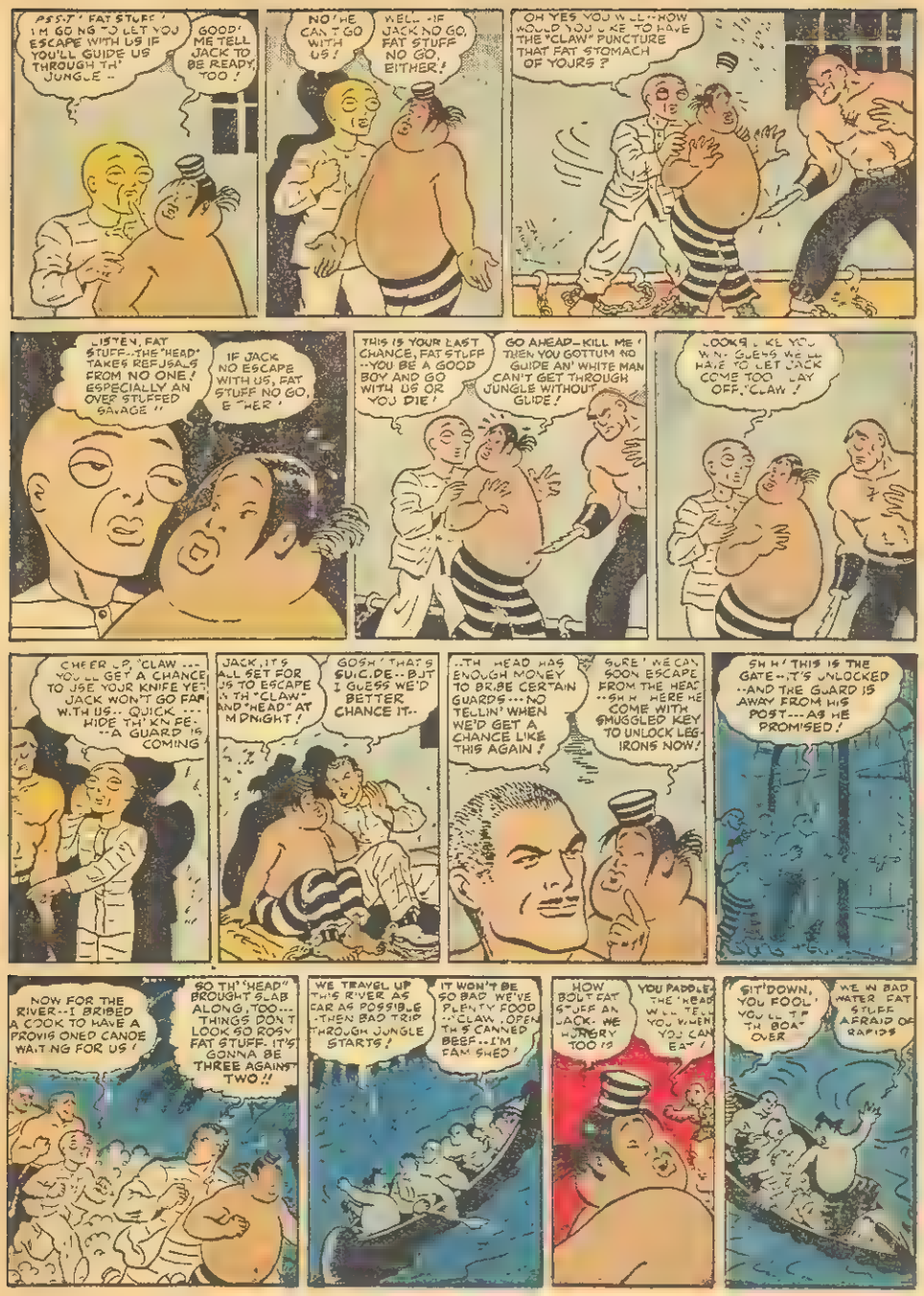
SMILIN' JACK

CHEE! 'HEAD! LAD EST MILLINERY IS KNDA OUTA MY LINE!
CERTAIN GUARDS WILL ALLOW YOU TO PLUCK BIRDS AS YOU GO TO AND FROM THE TIMBER CAMPS AND SULPHUR MINES--!
DIS IS A DISGRACE TO ME PROFESSION--- I'VE ROBBED EVERYTHING FROM DEL CATESSENS TO ARMORED TRUCKS- BUT STEALIN' TAIL FEATHERS FROM BOIDS-- ----DAT'S DE LIMIT!!
JACK, DO YOU SAY 'HEAD' KNOW YOU NOT POWDER?
YES, BUT HE HATES ME SO FOR TH' T.ME I SPOLED HIS SPY SYSTEM THAT HE WOULDN'T TELL ANYONE I'M NOT POWDER!
HE ENJOYS SEEING ME EXPOSED TO THE REAL POWDER'S ENEMIES-- T'S A WONDER I'M ST.LL ALIVE.
BUT TH' CONS ARE SO BUSY CATCHING BIRDS FOR TH' 'HEAD' NOW THAT THEY'VE TEMPORARILY LET UP ON GETTING REVENGE ON ME!
ME GONNA TRY CATCH BIRDS SO WE GET MONEY TO USE FOR ESCAPE TOO!
SH-H' NOT SO LOUD--- DON'T LET OL' EAGLE EYE HEAR YOU--I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS---
--HE MIGHT BE A STOOL PIGEON FOR TH' WARDEN --HE DOESN'T MIX WITH MANY OF TH' OTHER CONS--I WONDER WHAT HIS GAME IS---?
JACK, ME LEARN ABOUT EAGLE EYE FROM OTHER CONS--- THEY SAY HIM KILLER FOR RING OF AMERICAN RACKETEERS!
AMERICAN! HM-M' I'M GONNA TRY TO GET FRIENDLY WITH HM--
--I MIGHT GET INFORMATION OUTTA HIM THAT WOULD BE INVALUABLE TO OUR G-MEN---IF I EVER GET HOME!
SAY, EAGLE EYE--I HEAR YOU'RE AN AMERICAN TRIGGER MAN---
WELL --SO WOT?
M-M--IF I BUILD MYSELF UP BAD ENOUGH MAYBE I CAN GAIN HIS CONFIDENCE!
I'M AN AMERICAN, TOO--EVER HEAR OF TH' GHOST KILLER THAT WAS NEVER EXPOSED?
YEAH ---SO WOT?
OH, NOTHING--ONLY--I'M--TH' GUY- AND IT'S KINDA NICE TO MEET A FELLA FROM HOME--ESPECIALLY WHEN WE'RE IN TH' SAME BUSINESS.!!
EAGLE EYE, IF WE EVER GET OUTTA THIS RAT NEST AND YOUR MOB NEEDS A MAN WITH AN ITCHY TRIGGER FINGER, DON'T FORGET ME!
ARE YOU TH' SAME GHOST KILLER THAT BUMPED OFF THREE GANG LEADERS IN ONE DAY?
THAT'S ME--BUT THAT WAS NOTHIN' TO TH' LABOR DAY MASSACRE I ENGINEERED--BY TH' WAY ---WHO'S TH' LEADER OF YOUR OUTFIT THESE DAYS?
STOP TH' LOAFING!!

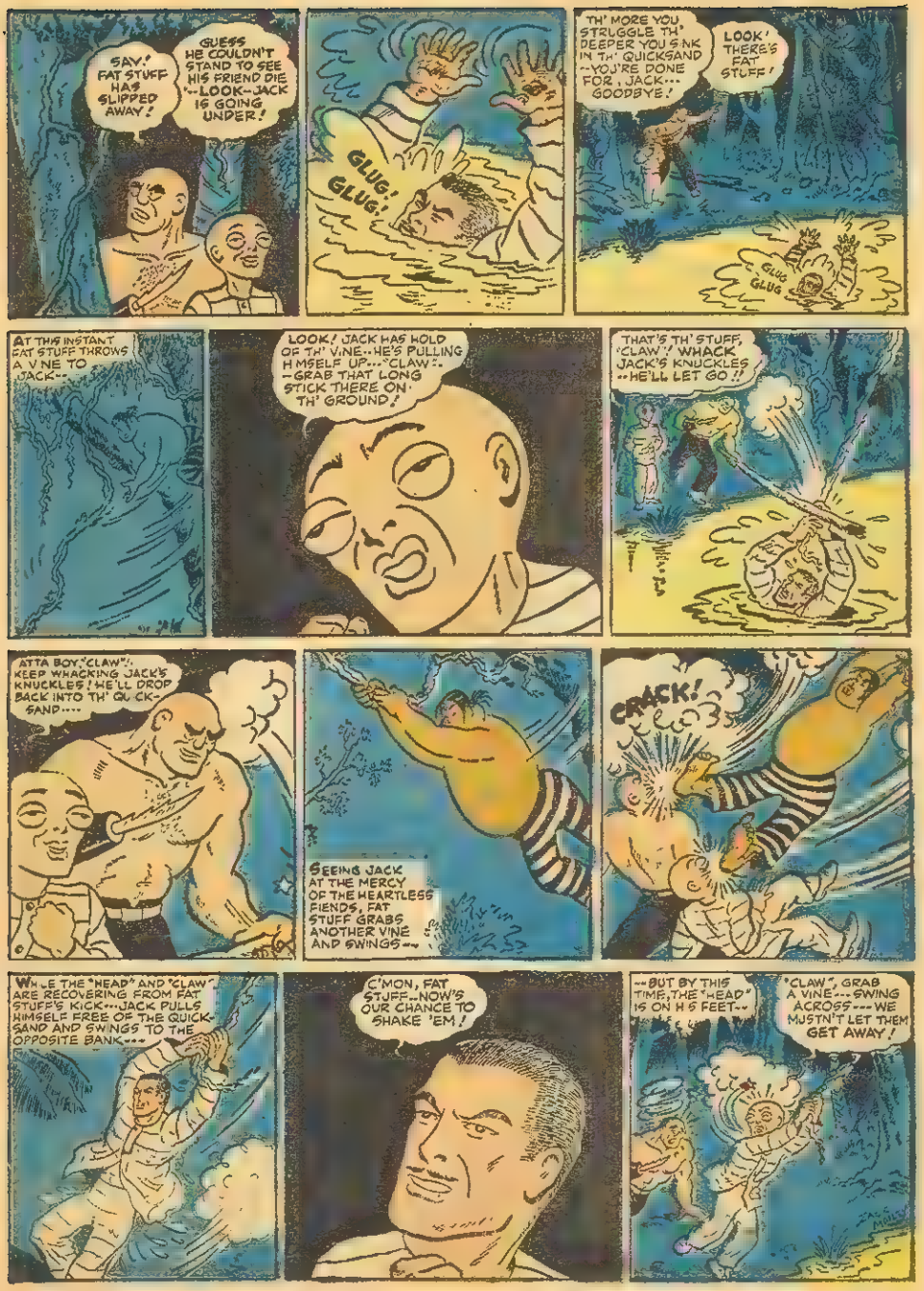
SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY


GUARD OR NO GUARD—YOU KICK ME LIKE THAT AGAIN, LIMEHOUSE, AND YOU'LL REGRET IT.---
SO' EAGLE EYE THINKS I'M AFRAID OF HIM—WELL, HERE'S ANOTHER PUNT FOR GOOD MEASURE "
WITH THE SPEED OF A SERPENT, EAGLE EYE WHIRLS—AND BEFORE LIMEHOUSE CAN RAISE HIS GUN—
INSTANTLY, OTHER GUARDS POUNCE UPON EAGLE EYE---
WOW! AT LAST LIMEHOUSE GOT A DOSE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE —WONDER WHAT THEY'LL DO TO EAGLE EYE?
MEBBE! GIVUM YEAR IN DUNGEON—BUT IF HIM BROKUM LIMEHOUSE NECK —EAGLE EYE GET GUILLOTINE!
BAD NEWS, JACK —EAGLE EYE NO BREAKUM LIMEHOUSE NECK—LIMEHOUSE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT—IS THAT WHY YOU LOOKUM SO SICK—?
NO—I LEARNED VIA PRISON GRAPEVINE THAT TH' AUTHORITIES LET EAGLE EYE GO BACK TO AMER CA—
WELL, WHAT SO BAD ABOUT THAT?
IT'S LEAKED OUT THAT HE WAS A G-MAN POSING AS A CRIMINAL WHILE HE OBTAINED INFORMATION FROM A CERTAIN CON ABOUT A SMUGGLING RING!
HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN ME OUT'TA HERE —WITH JUS' A FEW SECRET PASSWORDS I COULD HAVE PROVED TO HIM THAT I, TOO, AM ALLIED WITH TH' G-MEN!
—BUT INSTEAD I CONVINCED HIM THAT I WAS TH' WORLD'S NUMBER ONE BAD MAN!!
LISTEN, 'CLAM', WE'VE ENOUGH MONEY FROM OUR PLUMAGE SALES FOR AN ESCAPE. I'VE BRIBED A GUARD TO LEAVE A GATE UNLOCKED!

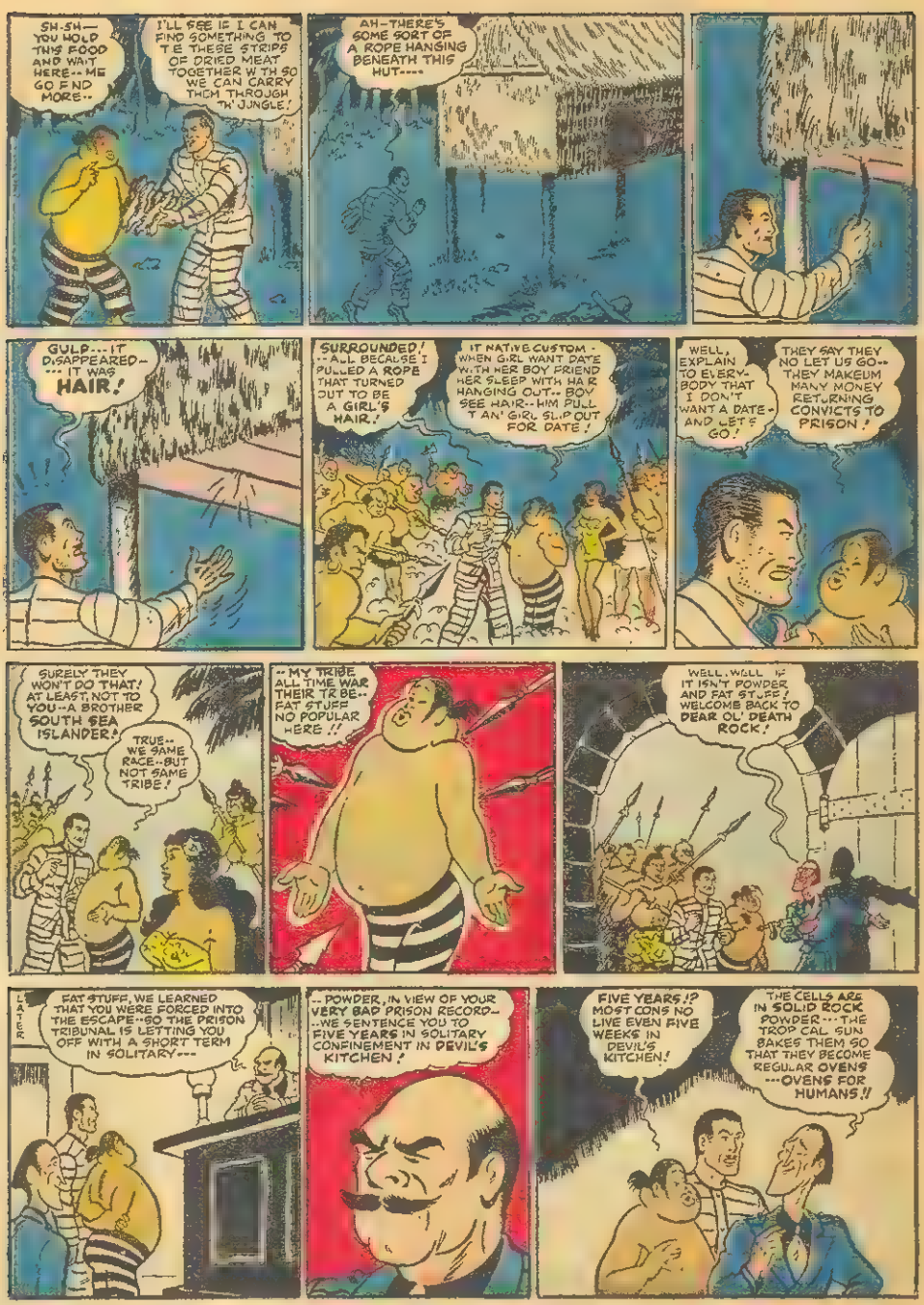

PSS-T ' FAT STUFF ' I'M GO NG TO LET YOU ESCAPE WITH US IF YOU'LL GUIDE US THROUGH TH' JUNGLE --
GOOD' ME TELL JACK TO BE READY, TOO !
NO ' HE CAN T GO WITH US !
WELL -IF JACK NO GO, FAT STUFF NO GO, EITHER !
OH YES YOU W LL -- HOW WOULD YOU L KE TO HAVE THE "CLAW" PUNCTURE THAT FAT STOMACH OF YOURS ?
LISTEN, FAT STUFF--THE "HEAD" TAKES REFUSALS FROM NO ONE ! ESPECIALLY AN OVER STUFFED SAVAGE !!
IF JACK NO ESCAPE WITH US, FAT STUFF NO GO, E "HER '
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE, FAT STUFF --YOU BE A GOOD BOY AND GO WITH US OR YOU DIE '
GO AHEAD--KILL ME ' THEN YOU GOTTUM NO GUIDE AN' WHITE MAN CAN'T GET THROUGH JUNGLE WITHOUT GUIDE !
LOOK 9 , KE YOU W N- GUESS WE LL HAVE TO LET JACK COME TOO LAY OFF, "CLAW !
CHEER UP, 'CLAW --- YOU LL GET A CHANCE TO USE YOUR KNIFE YET JACK WON'T GO FAR W.TH US-- QUICK --- HIDE TH' KN FE- --A GUARD IS COMING
JACK, IT'S ALL SET FOR US TO ESCAPE W TH "CLAW" AND "HEAD" AT M DNIGHT !
GOSH ' THAT'S SUIC.DE--BUT I GUESS WE'D BETTER CHANCE IT--
..TH HEAD HAS ENOUGH MONEY TO BR.BE CERTAIN GUARDS --- NO TELLIN' WHEN WE'D GET A CHANCE LIKE THIS AGAIN !
SURE ' WE CAN SOON ESCAPE FROM THE HEAT --SH H HERE HE COME WITH SMUGGLED KEY TO UNLOCK LEG IRONS NOW !
SH H ' THIS IS THE GATE --IT'S UNLOCKED --AND THE GUARD IS AWAY FROM HIS POST--AS HE PROM'SED !
NOW FOR THE RIVER--I BRIBED A COOK TO HAVE A PROVIS ONED CANOE WA.T NG FOR US !
SO TH' "HEAD" BROUGHT SLAB ALONG, TOO--- THINGS DON'T LOOK SO ROSY FAT STUFF. IT'S GONNA BE THREE AGAINST TWO !!
WE TRAVEL UP THIS RIVER AS FAR AS POSSIB.E --THEN BAD TRIP THROUGH JUNGLE STARTS !
IT WON'T BE SO BAD WE'VE PLENTY FOOD --'CLAW, OPEN TH S CANNED BEEF--I'M FAM'SHED '
HOW BOUT FAT STUFF AN JACK- WE HUNGRY TOO ?
YOU PADDLE THE 'HEAD WH LE TEL YOU WHEN YOU CAN EAT '
SIT 'DOWN, YOU FOOL ' YOU L TE TH BOAT OVER
WE N BAD WATER FAT STUFF AFRAID OF RAPIDS

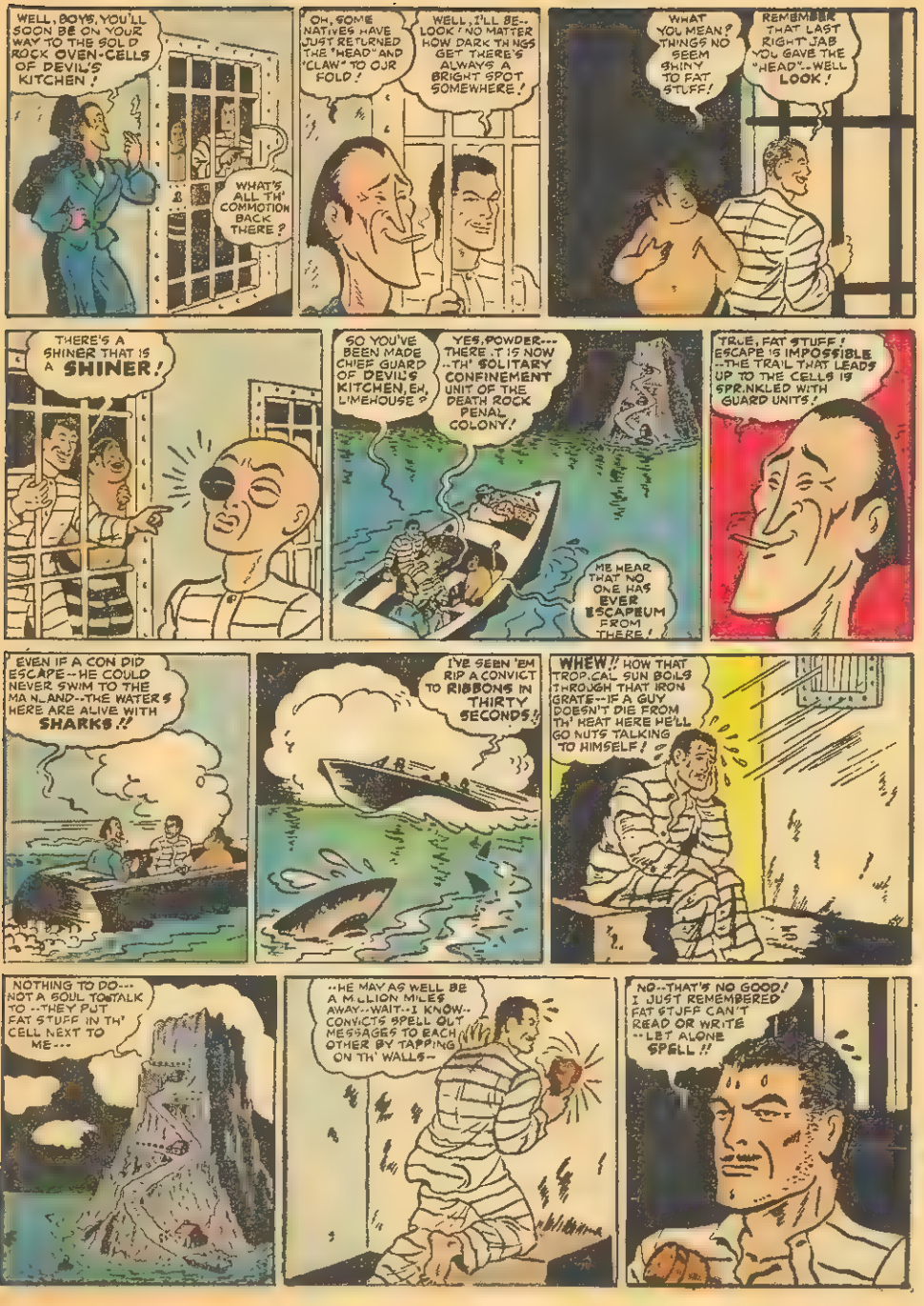
FAT STUFF ! HOW COULD YOU BE SO CLUMSY ? NOW WE'VE LOST TH' CANOE AND ALL TH' FOOD !!
SH H FAT STUFF NOT CLUMSY--ME TIP CANOE ON PURPOSE JACK
FAT STUFF YOU LEAD US OUTTA TH.S INSECT INFESTED JUNGLE TH' FASTEST WAY YOU KNOW !
I SHOULD MURDER H M FOR BE NG SO CLUMSY AND TIPPING TH' CANOE !
FAT STUFF, YOU SAY YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE--- WHY ? YOU KNEW WE NEEDED TH' FOOD !?
SH-H! YOU'LL SEE !
--I'M DYIN' OF HUNGER--I'M GONNA EAT SOME OF THESE BERRIES..
NO, SLAB! NO EAT! POISON !!
SAY---I THINK HE'S TRYING TO STARVE US ! THAT'S WHAT HE SAYS ABOUT EVERY FRUIT WE'VE SEEN!
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME ANY LONGER !! GUG !
NO! NO EAT-- POISON!
LATER...
DEAD ! IT WAS POISON !!
LEAD US OUTTA THIS BLASTED JUNGLE--TH' INSECTS ARE EATING ME UP.. FIND US SOME FOOD THAT ISN'T POISON !
TH' "HEAD" AND "CLAW" ARE GOIN' CRAZY FROM HUNGER..
LET 'EM RAVE ! THEY WON'T DARE EAT ANYTHING SINCE THEY SAW SLAB DIE FROM POISON BERRIES !
LOOKS LIKE WE'LL ALL STARVE.
SH H ' WAIT TILL DARK
LATER...
HERE EAT TH S FRUIT. DON'T LET "HEAD" AND "CLAW" SEE YOU--ME KNOW WHICH FRUIT IS NOT POISON ! SH-H-H--
WHILE FORDING A STREAM, JACK GOT CAUGHT IN QUICK-SAND.. FAT STUFF TRIED TO HELP JACK.. BUT..
ME GOTTA SAVE MY FRIEND !
YOU STOP TRYING TO HELP JACK !!
BECOMING SO ENGROSSED OVER THE FINAL ACT OF JACK'S L FE, THE "HEAD" AND "CLAW" MOMENTARILY FOR-GOT FAT STUFF--


SAY! FAT STUFF HAS SLIPPED AWAY!
GUESS HE COULDN'T STAND TO SEE HIS FRIEND DIE --LOOK--JACK IS GOING UNDER!
GLUG! GLUG!
TH' MORE YOU STRUGGLE TH' DEEPER YOU SINK IN TH' QUICKSAND --YOU'RE DONE FOR, JACK··· GOODBYE!
LOOK! THERE'S FAT STUFF!
GLUG GLUG
AT THIS INSTANT FAT STUFF THROWS A VINE TO JACK--
LOOK! JACK HAS HOLD OF TH' VINE--HE'S PULLING HIMSELF UP···"CLAW"·· --GRAB THAT LONG STICK THERE ON TH' GROUND!
THAT'S TH' STUFF, "CLAW"! WHACK JACK'S KNUCKLES --HE'LL LET GO!!
ATTA BOY, "CLAW"·· KEEP WHACKING JACK'S KNUCKLES! HE'LL DROP BACK INTO TH' QUICK-SAND····
SEEING JACK AT THE MERCY OF THE HEARTLESS FIENDS, FAT STUFF GRABS ANOTHER VINE AND SWINGS---
CRACK!
WHILE THE "HEAD" AND "CLAW" ARE RECOVERING FROM FAT STUFF'S KICK···JACK PULLS HIMSELF FREE OF THE QUICK-SAND AND SWINGS TO THE OPPOSITE BANK---
C'MON, FAT STUFF--NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO SHAKE 'EM!
--BUT BY THIS TIME, THE "HEAD" IS ON HIS FEET--
"CLAW", GRAB A VINE---SWING ACROSS--- WE MUSTN'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

HURRY, FAT STUFF ---THEY'RE AFTER US !!
--- PUFF--- PUFF--- FAT STUFF TOO FAT--NO CAN RUN FAST---
JACK, WE CAN'T SHAKE "HEAD" AND "CLAW"---- LOOK LIKE WE IN FOR MUCH TROUBLE--- -- PUFF--- PUFF..
YOU SAID IT, FAT STUFF--WITH TH' "HEAD" DETERMINED TO GET REVENGE ON ME--AND TH' "CLAW" HALF CRAZY FROM HUNGER-- ANYTHING MAY HAPPEN !!
THE "CLAW" IS RAVENOUS--DON'T LET HIM GET TOO CLOSE--I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE LOOKS AT YOU---
---I BELIEVE HE'S GONE STARK MAD--HE LOOKS AS IF HE MIGHT ACTUALLY TRY TO EAT YOU--
?
LOOK OUT!!
SEEING THE HUNGER-CRAZED "CLAW" DIVE FOR FAT STUFF, JACK MAKES A FLYING TACKLE ----
--AND WHAT'S THIS ? THE "HEAD" JUMPS THE "CLAW," ALSO---
YOU FOOL ! YOU MUSTN'T KILL OUR GUIDE--FAT STUFF IS TH' ONLY ONE THAT CAN GET US OUT OF THIS WILDERNESS !
SMACK!
MM-M ! WELL NOW... THAT'S DIFFERENT !! ANYTHING YOU DO TO JACK IS OKAY BY ME !
WITH THE SAW-TOOTH KNIFE NEARING HIS THROAT, JACK SUDDENLY TURNS LOOSE THE "CLAW'S" WEAPON ARM----
--AT THE SAME INSTANT, JACK JERKS TO ONE SIDE --- THE CLAW'S KNIFE MISSES ITS MARK AND DRIVES DEEP INTO A LOG---
--THE "CLAW" TRIES TO PULL THE KNIFE FREE -- BUT---

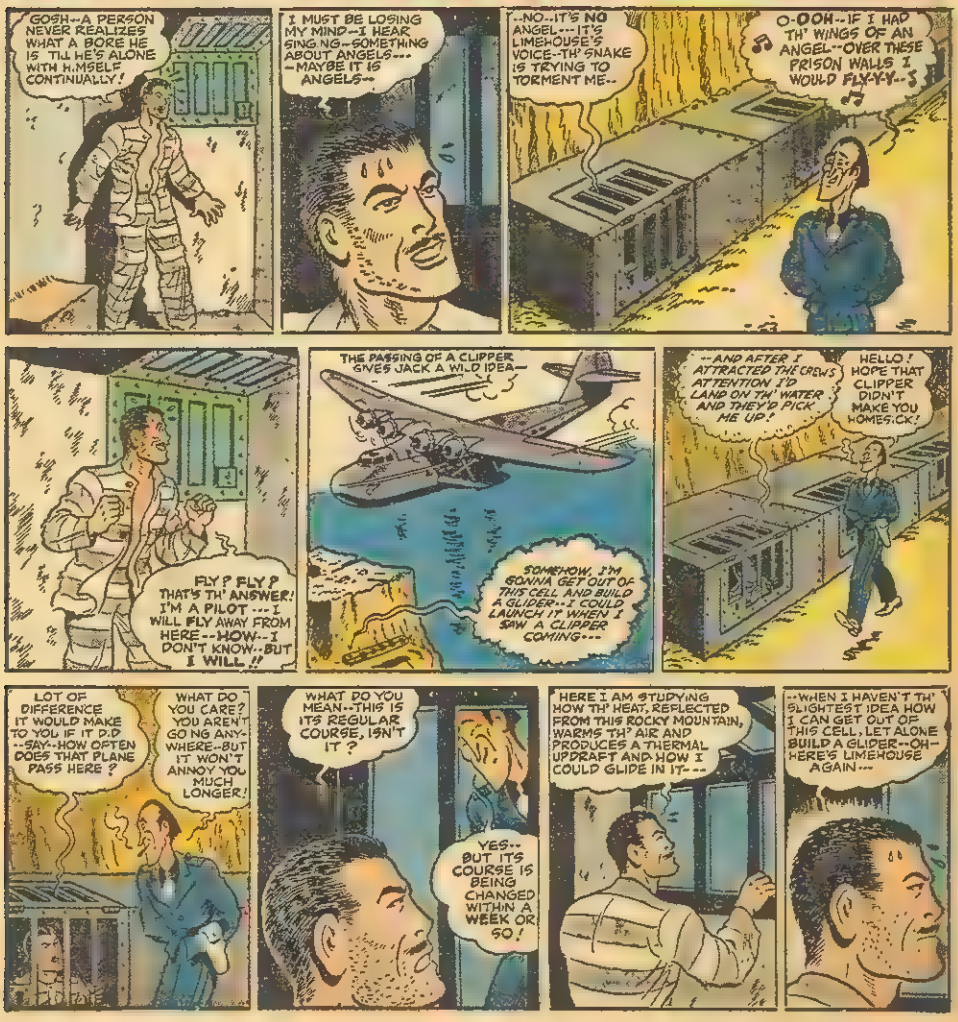
NOW WE'RE GETTIN' SOMEWHERE--FOR ONCE YOU'VE GOTTA F GHT LIKE A MAN--YOU YELLOW-LIVERED GORILLA !!
JUST AS I THOUGHT--- WITHOUT A WEAPON YOU'RE AS YELLOW AS THEY COME---
---THERE! SWEET DREAMS!!
MEANWHILE, THE 'HEAD' AND FAT STUFF HAVE BEEN MIXING IT UP--
--SUDDENLY--
ATTA BOY, FAT STUFF--- THAT'S ROCKIN' BABY TO SLEEP !!
TWEET
ME NO KNOW ME HAD SUCH TALENT FOR FIGHTING--- SOME DAY ME GONNA TAKE BOXING LESSONS!
WELL, IF YOU ASK ME YOU DON'T NEED ANY LESSONS
CLAW" LOOK LIKE HIM ENJOY NICE SLEEP, TOO--YOU GOOD PUNCH MAN, ALSO, JACK!
QUICK! WE MUST BEAT T BEFORE THEY COME TO---
SO LONG, BOYS--- --YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN NOW--YOU'RE GONNA HAVE SOME T ME IN THIS JUNGLE WITH-OUT A GUIDE!
WE GONNA HAVE SOME TIME, TOO, JACK--ME GUIDE-- --BUT ME LOST!!
JACK, YOU LOOK SICK--- WILD BERRIES NO AGREE WITH YOU--FAT STUFF SORRY WE ARE LOST!
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT, FAT STUFF --WE'LL GET OUTTA THIS JUNGLE SOMEHOW!
LOOK! NATIVE VILLAGE--NOW WE GET REAL FOOD!
SHH! BE MUCH QUIET, JACK--MANY NATIVES MAKE BUSINESS OF RETURNING CONVICTS TO DEATH ROCK PRISON !!

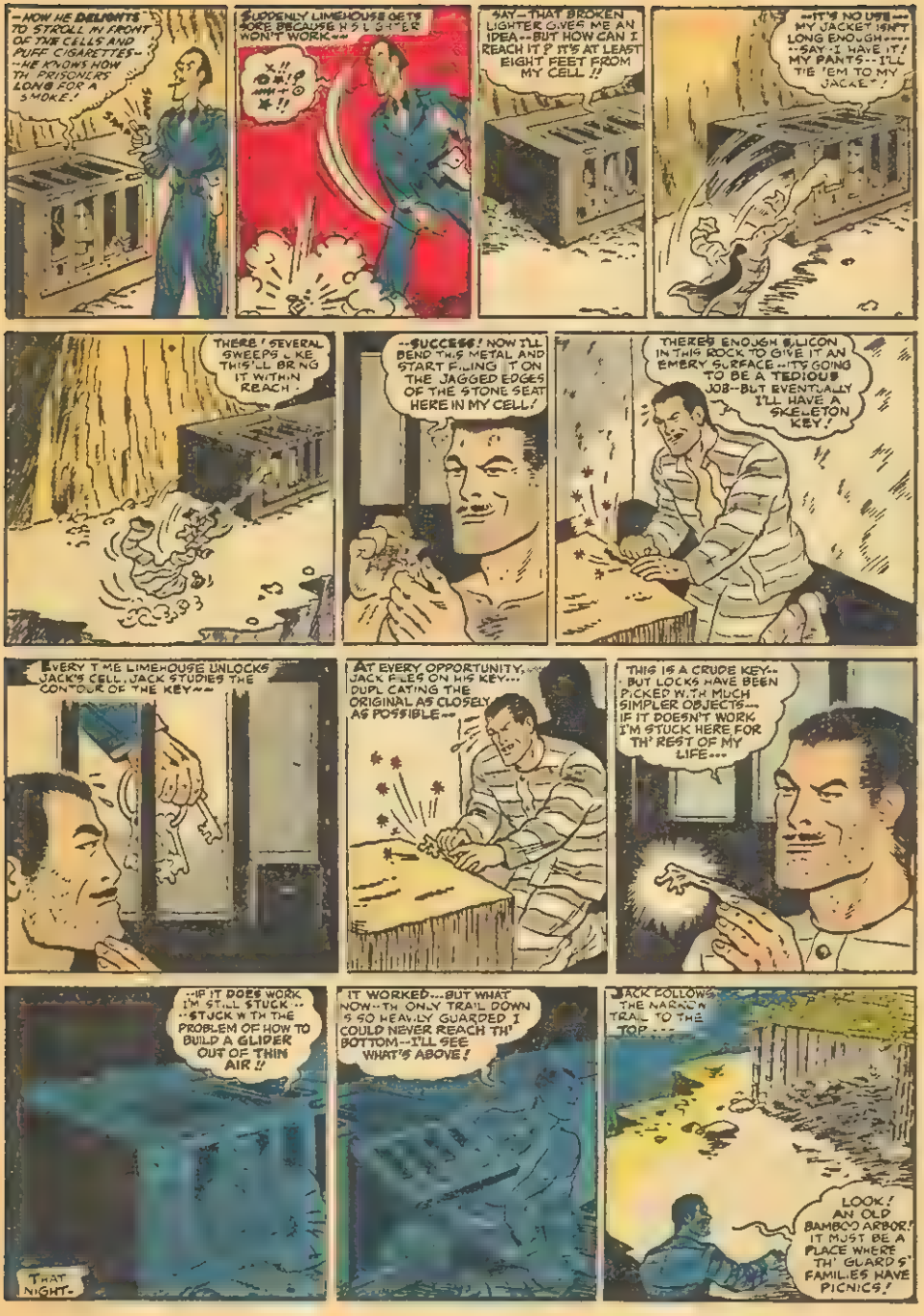

SH-SH— YOU HOLD THIS FOOD AND WAIT HERE-- ME GO FIND MORE--
I'LL SEE IF I CAN FIND SOMETHING TO TIE THESE STRIPS OF DRIED MEAT TOGETHER WITH SO WE CAN CARRY THEM THROUGH TH' JUNGLE!
AH-THERE'S SOME SORT OF A ROPE HANGING BENEATH THIS HUT----
GULP---IT DISAPPEARED--- IT WAS HAIR!
SURROUNDED! --ALL BECAUSE I PULLED A ROPE THAT TURNED OUT TO BE A GIRL'S HAIR!
IT NATIVE CUSTOM - WHEN GIRL WANT DATE WITH HER BOY FRIEND HER SLEEP WITH HAIR HANGING OUT-- BOY SEE HAIR--HIM PULL IT AN' GIRL SLIP OUT FOR DATE!
WELL, EXPLAIN TO EVERYBODY THAT I DON'T WANT A DATE-- AND LET'S GO!
THEY SAY THEY NO LET US GO-- THEY MAKE UM MANY MONEY RETURNING CONVICTS TO PRISON!
SURELY THEY WON'T DO THAT! AT LEAST, NOT TO YOU--A BROTHER SOUTH SEA ISLANDER!
TRUE-- WE SAME RACE--BUT NOT SAME TRIBE!
--MY TRIBE ALL TIME WAR THEIR TRIBE-- FAT STUFF NO POPULAR HERE!!
WELL, WELL -- IT ISN'T POWDER AND FAT STUFF! WELCOME BACK TO DEAR OL' DEATH ROCK!
LATER
FAT STUFF, WE LEARNED THAT YOU WERE FORCED INTO THE ESCAPE--SO THE PRISON TRIBUNAL IS LETTING YOU OFF WITH A SHORT TERM IN SOLITARY---
--POWDER, IN VIEW OF YOUR VERY BAD PRISON RECORD-- --WE SENTENCE YOU TO FIVE YEARS IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IN DEVIL'S KITCHEN!
FIVE YEARS!? MOST CONS NO LIVE EVEN FIVE WEEKS IN DEVIL'S KITCHEN!
THE CELLS ARE IN SOLID ROCK POWDER--- THE TROPICAL SUN BAKES THEM SO THAT THEY BECOME REGULAR OVENS ---OVENS FOR HUMANS!!


WELL, BOYS, YOU'LL SOON BE ON YOUR WAY TO THE SOLID ROCK OVEN-CELLS OF DEVIL'S KITCHEN!
WHAT'S ALL TH' COMMOTION BACK THERE?
OH, SOME NATIVES HAVE JUST RETURNED THE "HEAD" AND "CLAW" TO OUR FOLD!
WELL, I'LL BE-- LOOK! NO MATTER HOW DARK THINGS GET THERE'S ALWAYS A BRIGHT SPOT SOMEWHERE!
WHAT YOU MEAN? THINGS NO SEEM SHINY TO FAT STUFF!
REMEMBER THAT LAST RIGHT JAB YOU GAVE THE "HEAD"--WELL LOOK!
THERE'S A SHINER THAT IS A SHINER!
SO YOU'VE BEEN MADE CHIEF GUARD OF DEVIL'S KITCHEN, EH, LIMEHOUSE?
YES, POWDER--- THERE IT IS NOW --TH' SOLITARY CONFINEMENT UNIT OF THE DEATH ROCK PENAL COLONY!
WE HEAR THAT NO ONE HAS EVER ESCAPEUM FROM THERE!
TRUE, FAT STUFF! ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE --THE TRAIL THAT LEADS UP TO THE CELLS IS SPRINKLED WITH GUARD UNITS!
EVEN IF A CON DID ESCAPE--HE COULD NEVER SWIM TO THE MAINLAND--THE WATERS HERE ARE ALIVE WITH SHARKS!!
I'VE SEEN 'EM RIP A CONVICT TO RIBBONS IN THIRTY SECONDS!
WHEW!! HOW THAT TROPICAL SUN BOILS THROUGH THAT IRON GRATE--IF A GUY DOESN'T DIE FROM TH' HEAT HERE HE'LL GO NUTS TALKING TO HIMSELF!
NOTHING TO DO--- NOT A SOUL TO TALK TO --THEY PUT FAT STUFF IN TH' CELL NEXT TO ME---
--HE MAY AS WELL BE A MILLION MILES AWAY--WAIT--I KNOW-- CONVICTS SPELL OUT MESSAGES TO EACH OTHER BY TAPPING ON TH' WALLS--
NO--THAT'S NO GOOD! I JUST REMEMBERED FAT STUFF CAN'T READ OR WRITE --LET ALONE SPELL!!

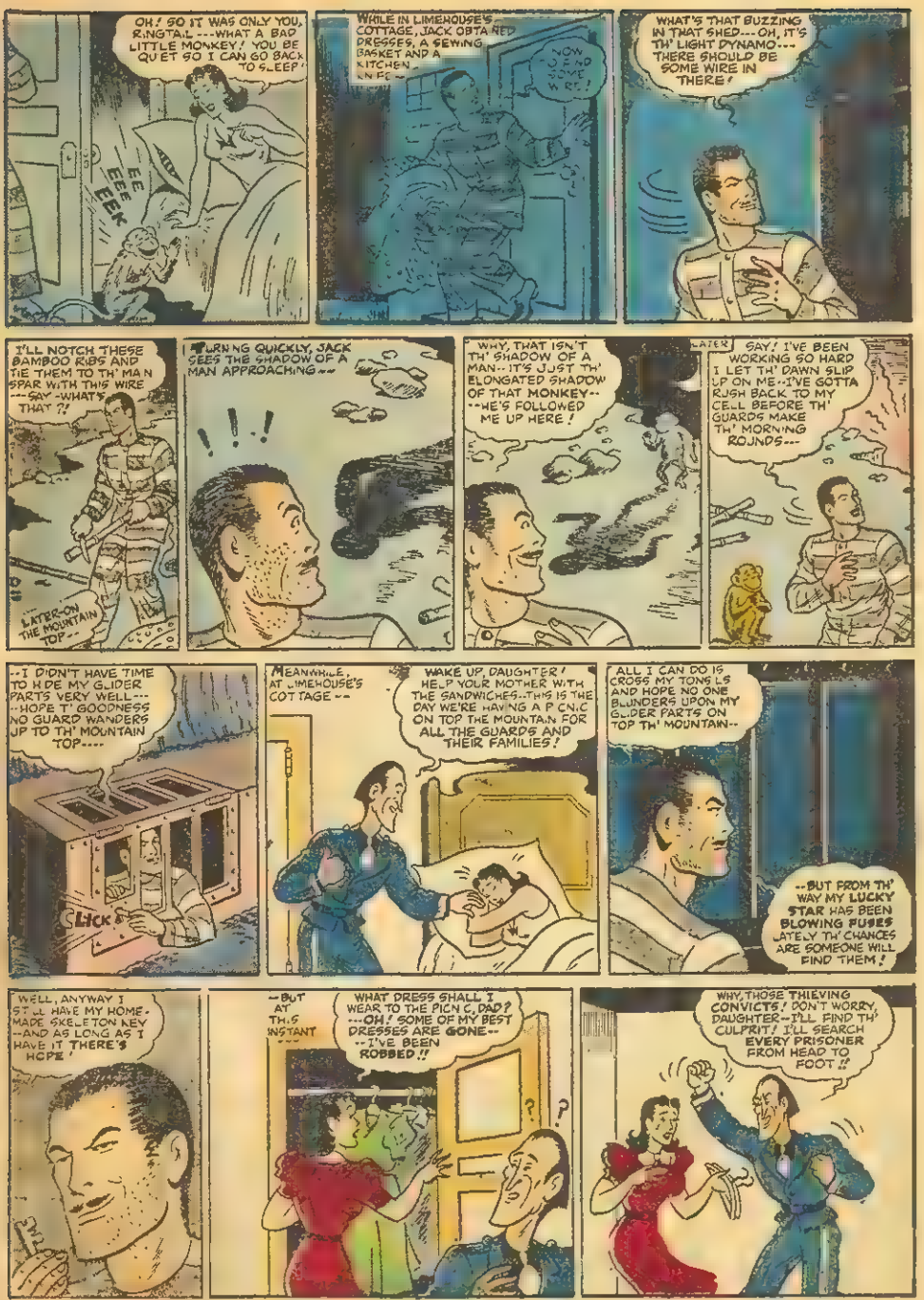
SMILIN' JACK

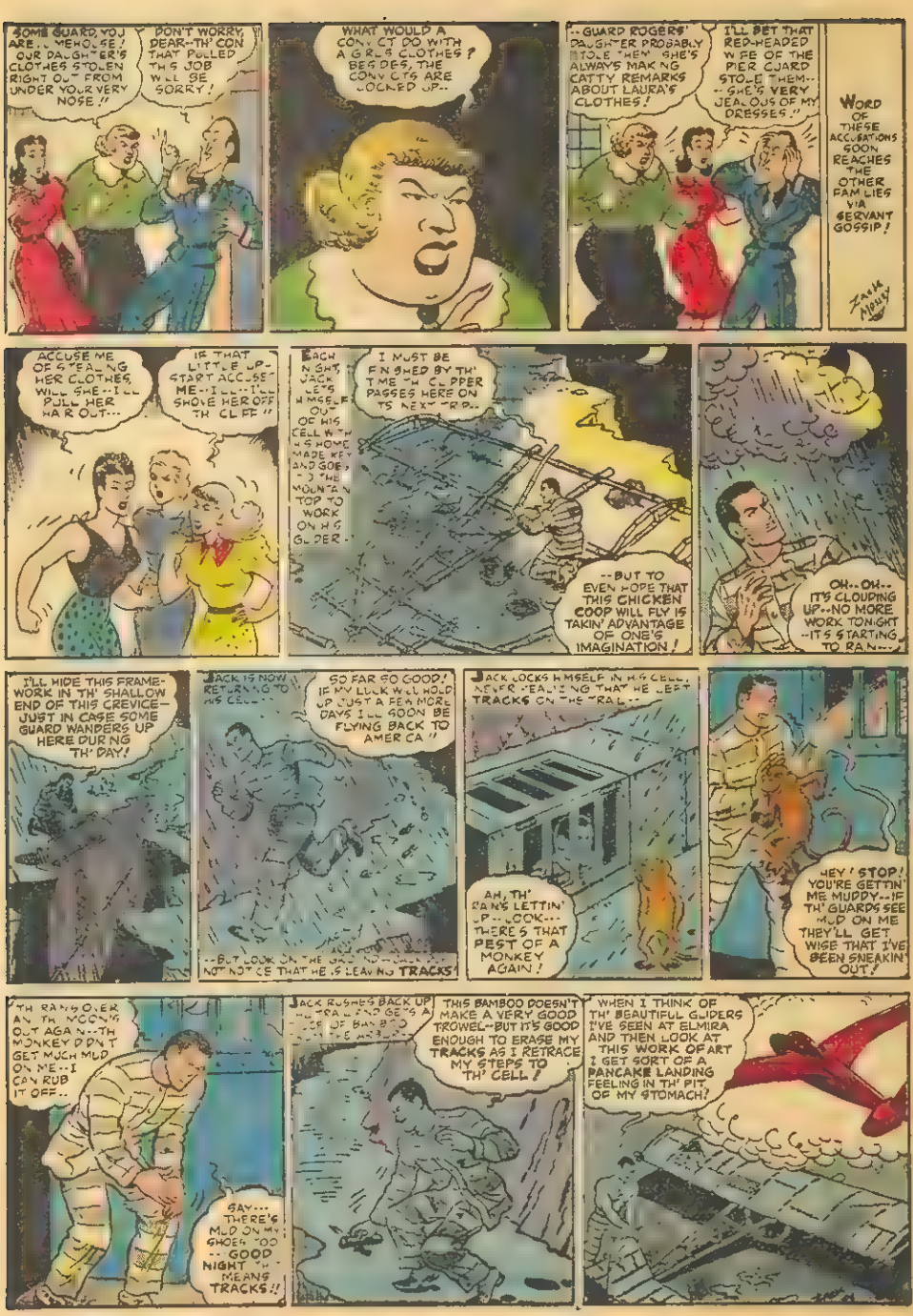
by ZACK MOSLEY

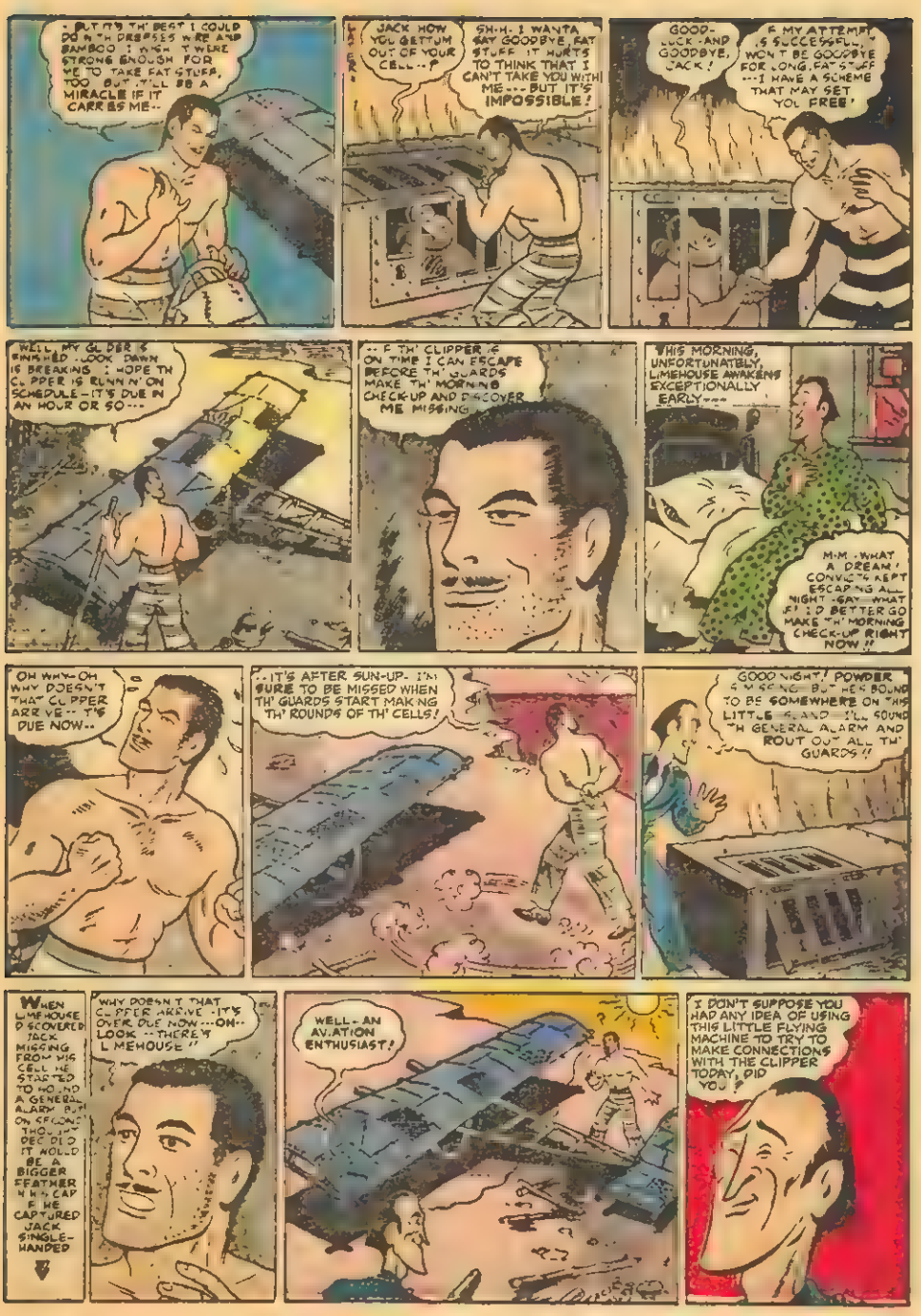

GOSH--A PERSON NEVER REALIZES WHAT A BORE HE IS TILL HE'S ALONE WITH H.MSELF CONTINUALLY!
I MUST BE LOSING MY MIND--I HEAR SING.NG--SOMETHING ABOUT ANGELS--- --MAYBE IT IS ANGELS--
--NO--IT'S NO ANGEL---IT'S LIMEHOUSE'S VOICE--TH' SNAKE IS TRYING TO TORMENT ME--
O-OOH--IF I HAD TH' WINGS OF AN ANGEL--OVER THESE PRISON WALLS I WOULD FLY-Y-Y--
FLY? FLY? THAT'S TH' ANSWER! I'M A PILOT --- I WILL FLY AWAY FROM HERE--HOW--I DON'T KNOW--BUT I WILL!!
THE PASSING OF A CLIPPER GIVES JACK A WILD IDEA—
SOMEHOW, I'M GOANA GET OUT OF THIS CELL AND BUILD A GLIDER--I COULD LAUNCH IT WHEN I SAW A CLIPPER COMING---
--AND AFTER I ATTRACTED THE CREWS ATTENTION I'D LAND ON TH' WATER AND THEY'D PICK ME UP?
HELLO! HOPE THAT CLIPPER DIDN'T MAKE YOU HOMESICK!
LOT OF DIFFERENCE IT WOULD MAKE TO YOU IF IT D.D --SAY--HOW OFTEN DOES THAT PLANE PASS HERE?
WHAT DO YOU CARE? YOU AREN'T GO NG ANY-WHERE--BUT IT WON'T ANNOY YOU MUCH LONGER!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN--THIS IS IT'S REGULAR COURSE, ISN'T IT?
YES-- BUT IT'S COURSE IS BEING CHANGED WITHIN A WEEK OR SO!
HERE I AM STUDYING HOW TH' HEAT, REFLECTED FROM THIS ROCKY MOUNTAIN, WARMS TH' AIR AND PRODUCES A THERMAL UPDRAFT AND HOW I COULD GLIDE IN IT---
--WHEN I HAVEN'T TH' SLIGHTEST IDEA HOW I CAN GET OUT OF THIS CELL, LET ALONE BUILD A GLIDER--OH-- HERE'S LIMEHOUSE AGAIN---


--HOW HE DELIGHTS TO STROLL IN FRONT OF THE CELLS AND PUFF CIGARETTES-- --HE KNOWS HOW TH' PRISONERS LONG FOR A SMOKE.!
SUDDENLY LIMEHOUSE GETS SORE BECAUSE HIS LIGHTER WON'T WORK--
SAY--THAT BROKEN LIGHTER GIVES ME AN IDEA--BUT HOW CAN I REACH IT? IT'S AT LEAST EIGHT FEET FROM MY CELL !!
--IT'S NO USE--- MY JACKET ISN'T LONG ENOUGH---- --SAY--I HAVE IT! MY PANTS--I'LL TIE 'EM TO MY JACKET--!
THERE ! SEVERAL SWEEPS LIKE THIS'LL BRING IT WITHIN REACH.
--SUCCESS! NOW I'LL BEND THIS METAL AND START FILING IT ON THE JAGGED EDGES OF THE STONE SEAT HERE IN MY CELL!
THERE'S ENOUGH SILICON IN THIS ROCK TO GIVE IT AN EMERY SURFACE--IT'S GOING TO BE A TEDIOUS JOB--BUT EVENTUALLY I'LL HAVE A SKELETON KEY!
EVERY TIME LIMEHOUSE UNLOCKS JACK'S CELL, JACK STUDIES THE CONTOUR OF THE KEY--
AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY, JACK FILES ON HIS KEY... DUPLICATING THE ORIGINAL AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE--
THIS IS A CRUDE KEY-- BUT LOCKS HAVE BEEN PICKED WITH MUCH SIMPLER OBJECTS--- IF IT DOESN'T WORK I'M STUCK HERE FOR TH' REST OF MY LIFE...
--IF IT DOES WORK I'M STILL STUCK-- --STUCK WITH THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO BUILD A GLIDER OUT OF THIN AIR !!
THAT NIGHT-
IT WORKED...BUT WHAT NOW--TH' ONLY TRAIL DOWN IS SO HEAVILY GUARDED I COULD NEVER REACH TH' BOTTOM--I'LL SEE WHAT'S ABOVE!
JACK FOLLOWS THE NARROW TRAIL TO THE TOP---
LOOK! AN OLD BAMBOO ARBOR! IT MUST BE A PLACE WHERE TH' GUARDS' FAMILIES HAVE PICNICS!

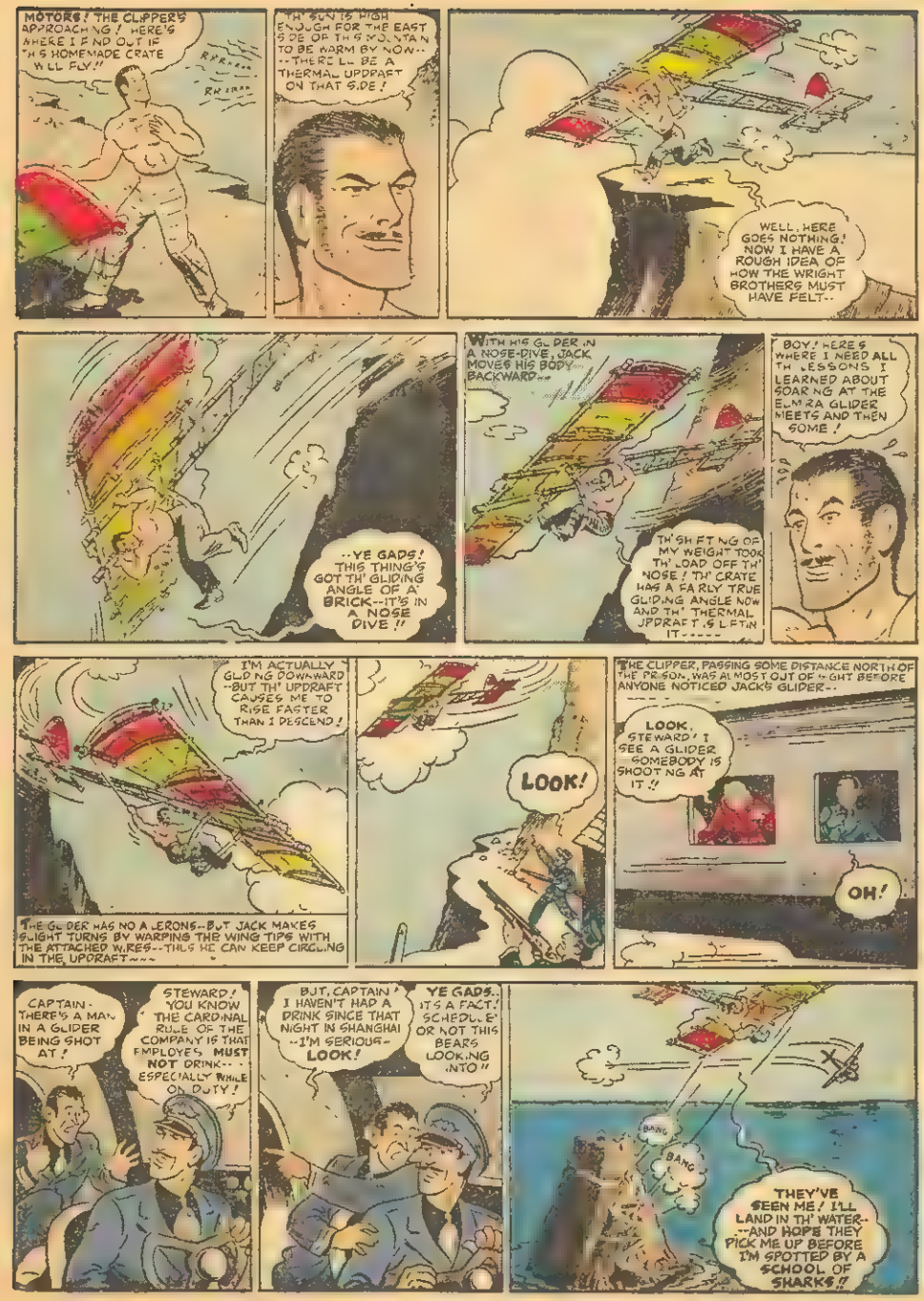
SAY! THAT BAMBOO IS JUST TH TH NG FOR MAK NG LONGERONS AND WING SPARS FOR A GLIDER!
WHY, I'M AS GOOD AS SPROUT 3 N 39 R GHT NOW BUT WAT A MOUTH WHAT AM I GONNA USE FOR WING FABRIC??
SAY! SOMETIME AGO I LEARNED THAT LIMEHOUSE -- S A BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER -- AND I KNOW BEAU L LOR S... THAT MEANS PRETTY CLOTHES...
...PRETTY CLOTHES MEANS LOTS OF S LK... AND LOTS OF SILK S THE SOLUTION TO MY W NG FABRIC PROBLEM!
NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SLIP INTO LIMEHOUSE'S COTTAGE AND STOCK UP ON DRESSES....
--BUT IF HIS DAUGHTER SHOULD WAKE UP AND FIND A CONVICT IN HER ROOM--IT WOULD MEAN TH' GU'LLOTINE FOR ME!
BOY! SHE'S GOT MORE CLOTHES THAN A FIFTH AVENUE GOWN SHOP WOULD! I LIME-HOUSE BOIL IF HE KNEW THAT HE WAS FINANCING MY ESCAPE!
SUDDENLY, JACK FEEL A HAND ON H S SHOULDER.
OH MY GOSH I'M CAUGHT! THIS IS TH END!!
GOOD NIGHT A MONAEV.!!
SUDDENLY--
KLANK!
OH! WHO S THERE?
JACK'S HEAR ALMOST STOPS EN LIMEHOUSE'S DAUGH TH ROOM--
I KNOW I HEARD SOMEONE!!
GULP! E SHE TURNS ON TH LIGHT IN SUNK!
I HAVE IT!!
I'LL "CALL TH' MONAEY!
M EEK EEP. EE-EE EE


OH! SO IT WAS ONLY YOU, RINGTAIL---WHAT A BAD LITTLE MONKEY! YOU BE QUIET SO I CAN GO BACK TO SLEEP!
EEE EEE EEK
WHILE IN LIMEHOUSE'S COTTAGE, JACK OBTAINED DRESSES, A SEWING BASKET AND A KITCHEN KNIFE--
NOW I'LL FIND SOME WIRE!
WHAT'S THAT BUZZING IN THAT SHED---OH, IT'S TH' LIGHT DYNAMO--- THERE SHOULD BE SOME WIRE IN THERE!
I'LL NOTCH THESE BAMBOO RIBS AND TIE THEM TO TH' MAIN SPAR WITH THIS WIRE ---SAY--WHAT'S THAT?!
LATER--ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP---
TURNING QUICKLY, JACK SEES THE SHADOW OF A MAN APPROACHING---
!!!
WHY, THAT ISN'T TH' SHADOW OF A MAN--IT'S JUST TH' ELONGATED SHADOW OF THAT MONKEY--- --HE'S FOLLOWED ME UP HERE!
LATER
SAY! I'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD I LET TH' DAWN SLIP UP ON ME--I'VE GOTTA RUSH BACK TO MY CELL BEFORE TH' GUARDS MAKE TH' MORNING ROUNDS---
--I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO HIDE MY GLIDER PARTS VERY WELL--- --HOPE T' GOODNESS NO GUARD WANDERS UP TO TH' MOUNTAIN TOP----
CLICK
MEANWHILE, AT LIMEHOUSE'S COTTAGE--
WAKE UP, DAUGHTER! HELP YOUR MOTHER WITH THE SANDWICHES--THIS IS THE DAY WE'RE HAVING A PICNIC ON TOP THE MOUNTAIN FOR ALL THE GUARDS AND THEIR FAMILIES!
ALL I CAN DO IS CROSS MY TONGUES AND HOPE NO ONE BLUNDERS UPON MY GLIDER PARTS ON TOP TH' MOUNTAIN--
--BUT FROM TH' WAY MY LUCKY STAR HAS BEEN BLOWING FUSES LATELY TH' CHANCES ARE SOMEONE WILL FIND THEM!
WELL, ANYWAY I STILL HAVE MY HOME-MADE SKELETON KEY --AND AS LONG AS I HAVE IT THERE'S HOPE!
--BUT AT THIS INSTANT---
WHAT DRESS SHALL I WEAR TO THE PICNIC, DAD? ---OH! SOME OF MY BEST DRESSES ARE GONE-- --I'VE BEEN ROBBED!!
? ? ?
WHY, THOSE THIEVING CONVICTS! DON'T WORRY, DAUGHTER--I'LL FIND TH' CULPRIT! I'LL SEARCH EVERY PRISONER FROM HEAD TO FOOT!!


SOME GUARD, YOU ARE.. MEHOUSE! OUR DAUGHTER'S CLOTHES STOLEN RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER YOUR VERY NOSE!"
DON'T WORRY, DEAR--TH' CON THAT PULLED THIS JOB WILL BE SORRY!
WHAT WOULD A CONVICT DO WITH A GIRL'S CLOTHES? BESIDES, THE CONVICTS ARE LOCKED UP--
--GUARD ROGERS' DAUGHTER PROBABLY TOLE THEM SHE'S ALWAYS MAKING CATTY REMARKS ABOUT LAURA'S CLOTHES!
I'LL BET THAT RED-HEADED WIFE OF THE PIER GUARD STOLE THEM-- --SHE'S VERY JEALOUS OF MY DRESSES!"
WORD OF THESE ACCUSATIONS SOON REACHES THE OTHER FAMILIES VIA SERVANT GOSSIP!
ZACK MOSLEY
ACCUSE ME OF STEALING HER CLOTHES, WILL SHE--I'LL PULL HER HAIR OUT...
IF THAT LITTLE UP-START ACCUSES ME--I'LL--I'LL SHOVE HER OFF TH' CLEFF"
EACH NIGHT, JACK LEVELS HIMSELF OUT OF HIS CELL WITH HIS HOME-MADE KEY AND GOES TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP TO WORK ON HIS GLIDER.
I MUST BE FINISHED BY THE TIME THE CLIPPER PASSES HERE ON ITS NEXT TRIP--
--BUT TO EVEN HOPE THAT THIS CHICKEN COOP WILL FLY IS TAKIN' ADVANTAGE OF ONE'S IMAGINATION!
OH--OH--IT'S CLOUDING UP--NO MORE WORK TONIGHT --IT'S STARTING TO RAIN--
I'LL HIDE THIS FRAME-WORK IN TH' SHALLOW END OF THIS CREVICE--JUST IN CASE SOME GUARD WANDERS UP HERE DURING TH' DAY!
JACK IS NOW RETURNING TO HIS CELL--
SO FAR SO GOOD! IF MY LUCK WILL HOLD UP JUST A FEW MORE DAYS I'LL SOON BE FLYING BACK TO AMERICA"
--BUT LOOK ON THE GROUND--JACK DOES NOT NOTICE THAT HE IS LEAVING TRACKS!
JACK LOCKS HIMSELF IN HIS CELL, NEVER REALIZING THAT HE LEFT TRACKS ON THE TRAIL--
AH, TH' RAIN'S LETTIN' UP--LOOK--THERE'S THAT PEST OF A MONKEY AGAIN!
HEY! STOP! YOU'RE GETTIN' ME MUDDY--IF TH' GUARDS SEE MUD ON ME THEY'LL GET WISE THAT I'VE BEEN SNEAKIN' OUT!
TH' RAIN'S OVER AN TH' MOON'S OUT AGAIN--TH' MONKEY DON'T GET MUCH MUD ON ME--I CAN RUB IT OFF..
SAY... THERE'S MUD ON MY SHOES, TOO -- GOOD NIGHT -- I MEANS TRACKS!!
JACK RUSHES BACK UP THE TRAIL AND GETS A PIECE OF BAMBOO FROM THE RAFT--
THIS BAMBOO DOESN'T MAKE A VERY GOOD TROWEL--BUT IT'S GOOD ENOUGH TO ERASE MY TRACKS AS I RETRACE MY STEPS TO TH' CELL!
WHEN I THINK OF TH' BEAUTIFUL GLIDERS I'VE SEEN AT ELMIRA AND THEN LOOK AT THIS WORK OF ART I GET SORT OF A PANCAKE LANDING FEELING IN TH' PIT OF MY STOMACH!


- BUT IT'S TH' BEST I COULD DO IN TH' PRESS WERE AND BAMBOO IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO TAKE FAT STUFF, TOO BUT IT'LL BE A MIRACLE IF IT CARRIES ME--
JACK HOW YOU GETTUM OUT OF YOUR CELL--?
SH-H- I WANTA SAY GOODBYE, FAT STUFF IT HURTS TO THINK THAT I CAN'T TAKE YOU WITH ME--- BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
GOOD-LUCK AND GOODBYE, JACK!
IF MY ATTEMPT IS SUCCESSFUL, WON'T BE GOODBYE FOR LONG, FAT STUFF --I HAVE A SCHEME THAT MAY SET YOU FREE!
WELL, MY GLIDER IS SHIELDED... LOOK DAWN IS BREAKING - I HOPE TH CLIPPER IS RUNN'N' ON SCHEDULE - IT'S DUE IN AN HOUR OR SO---
-- IF TH' CLIPPER IS ON TIME I CAN ESCAPE BEFORE TH' GUARDS MAKE TH' MORNING CHECK-UP AND DISCOVER ME MISSING
THIS MORNING, UNFORTUNATELY, LIMEHOUSE AWAKENS EXCEPTIONALLY EARLY----
M-M - WHAT A DREAM! CONVICTS KEPT ESCAPING ALL NIGHT - GAY - WHAT FUN! I'D BETTER GO MAKE TH' MORNING CHECK-UP RIGHT NOW!!
OH WHY-OH WHY DOESN'T THAT CLIPPER ARRIVE -- IT'S DUE NOW--
- IT'S AFTER SUN-UP- I'M SURE TO BE MISSED WHEN TH' GUARDS START MAKING TH' ROUNDS OF TH' CELLS!
GOOD NIGHT! POWDER SMOKING - BUT HE'S BOUND TO BE SOMEWHERE ON THIS LITTLE ISLAND - I'LL SOUND TH GENERAL ALARM AND ROUT OUT ALL TH' GUARDS!!
WHEN LIMEHOUSE DISCOVERED JACK MISSING FROM HIS CELL HE STARTED TO SOUND A GENERAL ALARM BUT ON SECOND THOUGHT DECIDED IT WOULD BE A BIGGER FEATHER IN HIS CAP IF HE CAPTURED JACK SINGLE-HANDED
WHY DOESN'T THAT CLIPPER ARRIVE - IT'S OVER DUE NOW--OH-- LOOK -- THERE'S LIMEHOUSE!!
WELL - AN AVIATION ENTHUSIAST!
I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU HAD ANY IDEA OF USING THIS LITTLE FLYING MACHINE TO TRY TO MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH THE CLIPPER TODAY, DID YOU?

MY HEART BLEEDS AS I THINK OF HAVING TO DEMOLISH SUCH A WORK OF ART---BUT PRISON GUARDS FROWN UPON CONVICTS' BECOMING AIR-MINDED....
BEFORE LIMEHOUSE COULD STRIKE THE GLIDER, JACK DIVED--
BANG!
BANG!
DESPERATION PROPELLED JACK TOWARD LIMEHOUSE AT SUCH A SPEED THAT JACK WAS UPON HIM BEFORE ANY BULLET FROM LIMEHOUSE'S GUN COULD FIND ITS MARK
THE GUN FALLS INTO A DEEP CREVICE!
LIMEHOUSE TRIES TO PUSH THE FIGHT TOWARD JACK'S GLIDER, IN THE HOPE OF FALLING ON IT--- --BUT JACK WARDS HIM OFF---
OVER AND OVER THEY ROLL--- CLOSER AND CLOSER TO THE YAWNING CREVICE----
JACK AND LIMEHOUSE ARE ON THEIR FEET AGAIN----
LIMEHOUSE HAS MANAGED TO WHIP OUT HIS KNIFE AND HE STABS AT JACK AS JACK LEAPS ACROSS THE CREVICE ----
LIMEHOUSE LEAPS AFTER JACK--BUT HE TRIPS ON A ROCK----
HELP! I'M DYING! --GET ME OUT OF HERE!!
OH! LIMEHOUSE FELL INTO TH' CREVICE!
AT THIS INSTANT, A PROFESSOR IN AN OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY LABORATORY IS LOOKING AT A SEISMOGRAPH, AND SUDDENLY SEES THE NEEDLE BEGIN TO MOVE ---
MM-M! THERE'S A SLIGHT EARTH TREMOR--IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC-- --I BELIEVE---
--THE CREVICE! IT'S CLOSED--LIKE A VISE ON LIMEHOUSE--SWALLOWED UP BY THE VERY EARTH ITSELF--ALMOST AS IF FATE HAD PLANNED HIS END!!
LITTLE DOES THE PROFESSOR DREAM THAT THE SCIENTIFIC RECORDING HE IS WITNESSING IS ALSO THE RECORDING OF A DRAMATIC CLIMAX TO A HUMAN LIFE ----

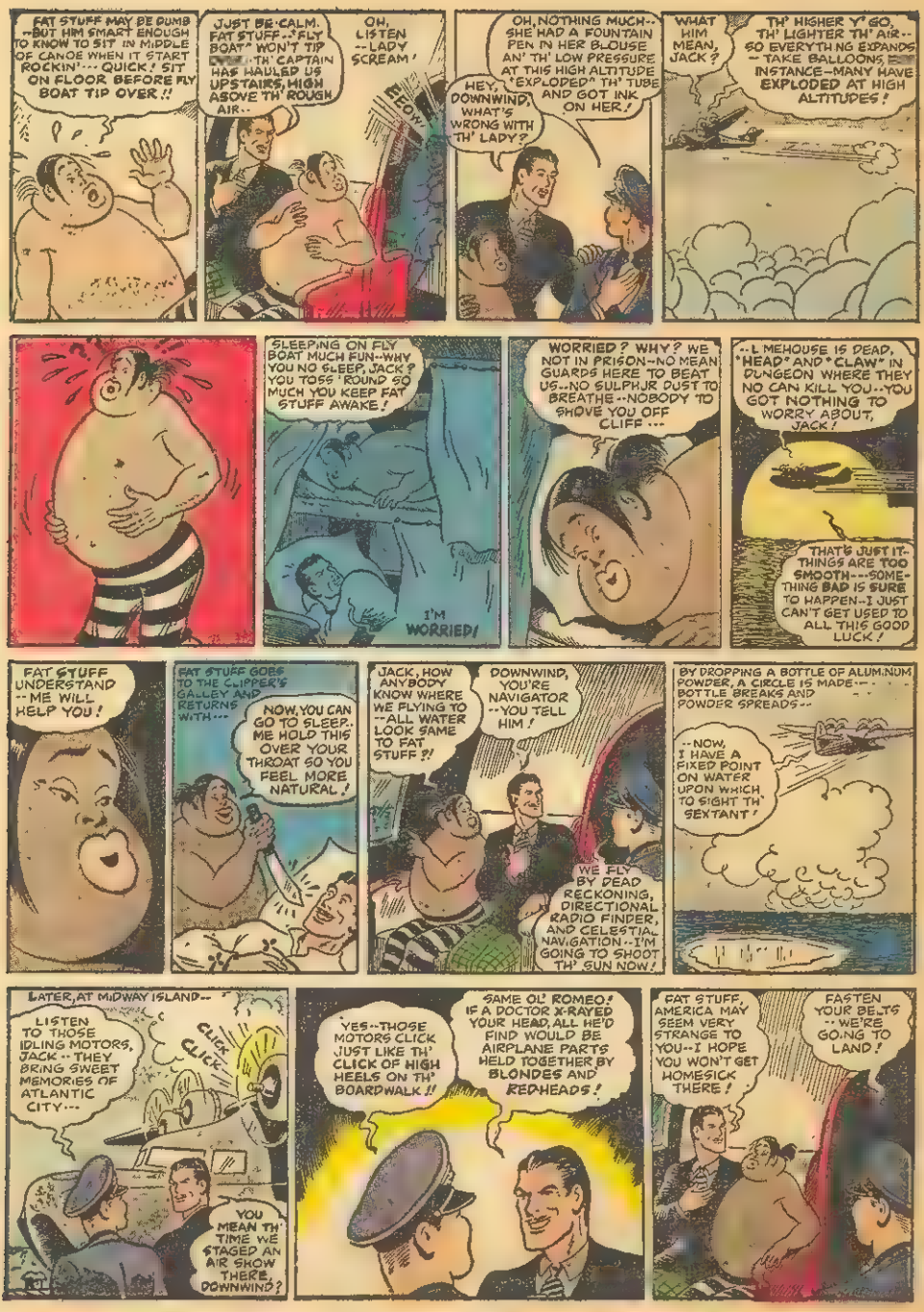

MOTORS! THE CLIPPER'S APPROACHING! HERE'S WHERE I FIND OUT IF THIS HOMEMADE CRATE WILL FLY!!
RR-R-R-R-R
RR-R-R-R-R
THE SUN IS HIGH ENOUGH FOR THE EAST SIDE OF THIS MOUNTAIN TO BE WARM BY NOW--THERE'LL BE A THERMAL UPDRAFT ON THAT SIDE!
WELL, HERE GOES NOTHING! NOW I HAVE A ROUGH IDEA OF HOW THE WRIGHT BROTHERS MUST HAVE FELT--
--YE GADS! THIS THING'S GOT TH' GLIDING ANGLE OF A BRICK--IT'S IN A NOSE DIVE!!
WITH HIS GLIDER IN A NOSE-DIVE, JACK MOVES HIS BODY BACKWARD--
TH' SHIFTING OF MY WEIGHT TOOK TH' LOAD OFF TH' NOSE! TH' CRATE HAS A FAIRLY TRUE GLIDING ANGLE NOW AND TH' THERMAL UPDRAFT'S LIFTIN IT-----
BOY! HERE'S WHERE I NEED ALL TH' LESSONS I LEARNED ABOUT SOARING AT THE ELMIRA GLIDER MEETS AND THEN SOME!
I'M ACTUALLY GLIDING DOWNWARD--BUT TH' UPDRAFT CAUSES ME TO RISE FASTER THAN I DESCEND!
THE GLIDER HAS NO AILERONS--BUT JACK MAKES SLIGHT TURNS BY WARPING THE WING TIPS WITH THE ATTACHED WIRES--THUS HE CAN KEEP CIRCLING IN THE UPDRAFT~~~
LOOK!
THE CLIPPER, PASSING SOME DISTANCE NORTH OF THE PERSON, WAS ALMOST OUT OF SIGHT BEFORE ANYONE NOTICED JACK'S GLIDER--
LOOK, STEWARD! I SEE A GLIDER--SOMEBODY IS SHOOTING AT IT!!
OH!
CAPTAIN--THERE'S A MAN IN A GLIDER BEING SHOT AT!
STEWARD! YOU KNOW THE CARDINAL RULE OF THE COMPANY IS THAT EMPLOYES MUST NOT DRINK---ESPECIALLY WHILE ON DUTY!
BUT, CAPTAIN! I HAVEN'T HAD A DRINK SINCE THAT NIGHT IN SHANGHAI--I'M SERIOUS--LOOK!
YE GADS. IT'S A FACT! SCHEDULE OR NOT THIS BEARS LOOKING INTO"
BANG
BANG
THEY'VE SEEN ME! I'LL LAND IN TH' WATER--AND HOPE THEY PICK ME UP BEFORE I'M SPOTTED BY A SCHOOL OF SHARKS!!

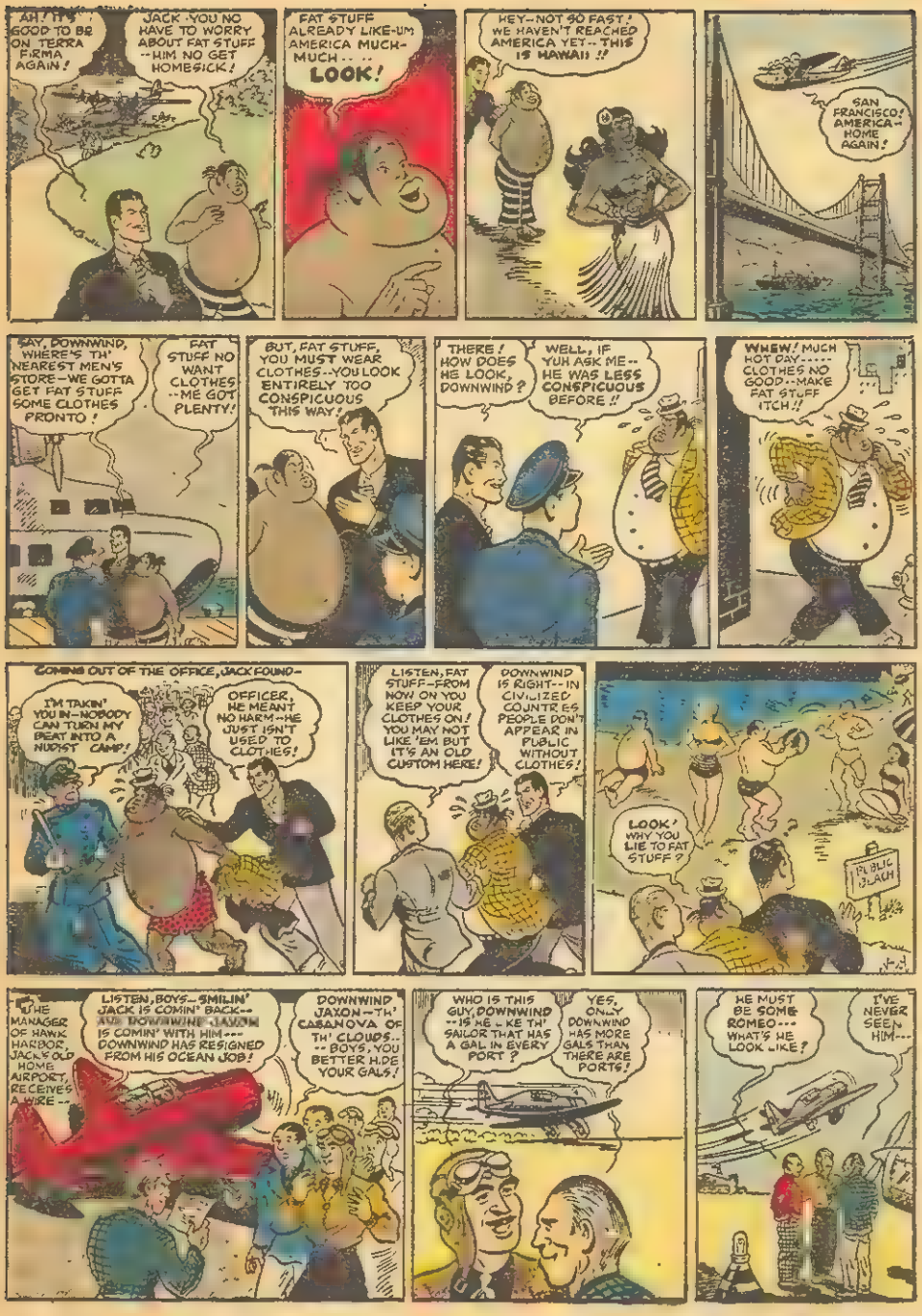
SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

SEEING THE CLIPPER TURN BACK, JACK HEADS THE GLIDER AWAY FROM THE ISLAND AND NEARS THE WATER---
SPLASH!
BY THIS TIME THE CLIPPER HAS LANDED AND TAXIED OVER TO JACK--
FELLOW, YOU CERTAINLY EXECUTED AN AMAZING FEAT!
IT REALLY HURTS ME TO THINK THAT IT IS MY DUTY TO RETURN YOU TO THE PRISON FROM WHICH YOU SO VALIANTLY ESCAPED !!
??
--BUT, CAPTAIN--YOU'VE GOTTA LISTEN TO MY STORY--I'M NOT A CONVICT --I WAS ON AN UNDERCOVER JOB FOR THE F.B.I. AND WAS IMPRISONED BY MISTAKE!
SORRY, OLD MAN--A LIKELY STORY --BUT IT'S MY DUTY TO RETURN YOU TO THE DEATH ROCK AUTHORITIES!
PLEASE, CAPTAIN! DON'T TAKE ME BACK --FOR WEEKS I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PROVE MY REAL IDENTITY --I AM SMILIN' JACK!
SMILIN' JACK! WHY YOU OL' SON-OF-A-GUN! I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU!!
WHY IF IT ISN'T DOWNWIND JAXON--YOU OLD LADY KILLER! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE WE BARNSTORMED TEXAS!!
??
JACK-YOU OL' MOTH EATEN TAIL SKID!!
JACK, AS A MATTER OF FORMALITY WE MUST TAKE YOU TO THE DEATH ROCK WARDEN!
OKAY, CAPTAIN-- WITH MY OL' PAL DOWNWIND HERE TO IDENTIFY ME ---I'M NOT WORRIED!
LOOK, JACK! THERE ON TH' WRECKED GLIDER!
WHY, IT'S RINGTAIL, TH' MONKEY! HE WAS EVIDENTLY CLINGING TO TH' GLIDER ALL TH' TIME AND I WAS SO BUSY THAT I DIDN'T SEE HIM!
WELL, FISH HIM OUT--- AND LET'S GO!

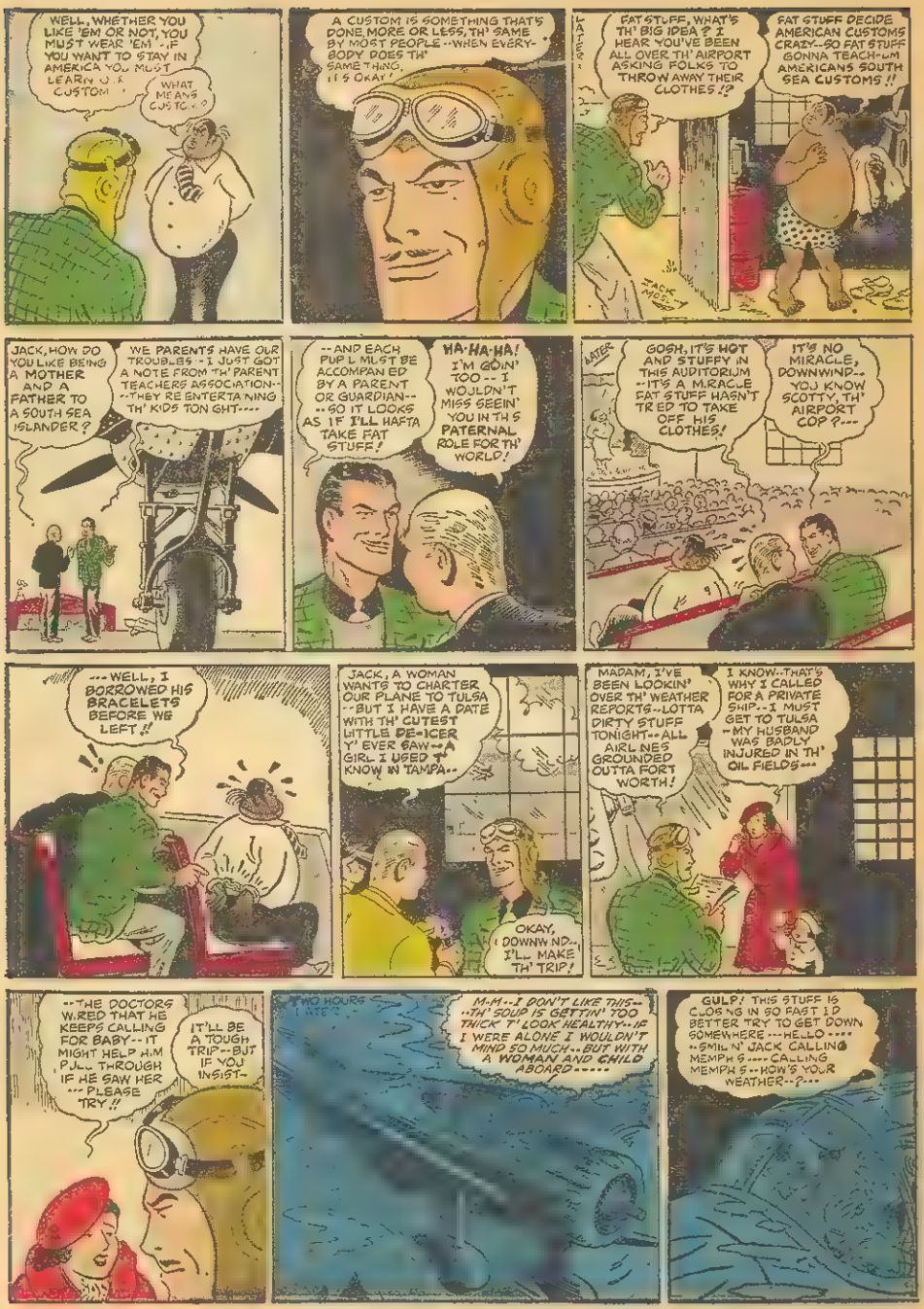
JACK, AFTER TH' WAY YOU BU LT THAT GL DER AND EXECUTED THIS ESCAPE IT'S A SHAME TO THINK OF TH' DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAVING TO REVOKE YOUR P.LOTS LICENSE!
W--WHAT DO YOU MEAN, DOWNWIND?
WHY--FOR CARRY NG A PASSENGER IN AN UNLICENSED AIRCRAFT... HA-HA-HA!
AT DEATH ROCK THE CLIPPER OFFICERS INSISTED THAT THE WARDEN RADIO WASH NGTON D.C. TO VERIFY JACK'S REAL IDENTITY
THE REPORT SOON ARRIVED
THIS IS MOST EMBARRASSING, MISTER EMILIN JACK...
IT'LL BE MORE SO WHEN YOUR GOVERNMENT LEARNS OF THE ATROCIOUS WAY YOU HANDLED MY CASE!
RADIO REPORT
WARDEN
IT ISN'T MY FAULT POWDER'S FINGERPRINTS WERE DESTROYED IN THE PRISON FIRE!
WELL, YOU COULD HAVE OBTAINED DUPLICATE FINGERPRINTS FROM YOUR COUNTRY'S CRIMINAL BUREAU...
...BUT BECAUSE THIS MARK AND MY FEATURES ARE SO MUCH LIKE POWDER'S YOU TOOK ME AT FACE VALUE!
WELL, YOU SEE OUR POSITION--IT WOULD LOOK LIKE INCOMPETENCY ON OUR PART IF WE COULD NOT IDENTIFY OUR OWN PRISONERS..
-ER-ISN'T THERE SOME WAY WE CAN MAKE AMENDS WITHOUT BOTHERING MY GOVERNMENT WITH SUCH A TR VIAL MATTER?
M-M--WELL NOW IF FAT STUFF WAS RELEASED--I MIGHT FORGET A LOT OF THINGS!
PARDON US A FEW MOMENTS WHILE WE LOOK INTO FAT STUFF'S RECORD AND CHECK UP ON THE GRAVITY OF HIS OFFENSE!
WARDEN
HIS RECORD ALSO SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED IN THE PRISON FIRE--THIS IS MOST EMBARRASSING--NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW WHY HE WAS SENT TO PRISON!
FAT STUFF NEVER KNEW, EITHER--WELL, DOES HE GO FREE?
MOST ASSUREDLY.. ----MOST ASSUREDLY!
WARDEN
AFTER GETTING FAT STUFF OUT OF PRISON, JACK BORROWED A RAZOR AND SOME CLOTHES FROM A CLIPPER OFFICER
HOW DO YOU LIKE FLYING FAT STUFF?
ARE WE FLYING, JACK? FAT STUFF THOUGHT FLY BOAT STAND STILL!
THAT'S BECAUSE ONE LOSES ALMOST ALL SENSATION OF SPEED IN TH' AIR---ACTUALLY, THIS BOAT IS HURTLING THROUGH TH' SKIES AT OVER 150 MILES PER HOUR!
SUDDENLY, THE HUGE FLYING BOAT HITS SOME ROUGH AIR-
QUICK! EVERYBODY SIT ON FLOOR!!
WHAT TH'--HEY, GET OUT OF TH' AISLE BEFORE SOME ONE TRIPS OVER YOU--YOU DUMB BUNNY!!


FAT STUFF MAY BE DUMB --BUT HIM SMART ENOUGH TO KNOW TO SIT IN MIDDLE OF CANOE WHEN IT START ROCKIN'--- QUICK! SIT ON FLOOR BEFORE FLY BOAT TIP OVER!!
JUST BE CALM, FAT STUFF--! FLY BOAT* WON'T TIP OVER--'TH' CAPTAIN HAS HAULED US UPSTAIRS, HIGH ABOVE TH' ROUGH AIR--
OH, LISTEN --LADY SCREAM!
EEEOW!
HEY, DOWNWIND, WHAT'S WRONG WITH TH' LADY?
OH, NOTHING MUCH-- SHE HAD A FOUNTAIN PEN IN HER BLOUSE AN' TH' LOW PRESSURE AT THIS HIGH ALTITUDE 'EXPLODED" TH' TUBE AND GOT INK ON HER!
WHAT HIM MEAN, JACK?
TH' HIGHER Y' GO, TH' LIGHTER TH' AIR-- SO EVERYTH NG EXPANDS -- TAKE BALLOONS, INSTANCE--MANY HAVE EXPLODED AT HIGH ALTITUDES!
SLEEPING ON FLY BOAT MUCH FUN--WHY YOU NO SLEEP, JACK? YOU TOSS 'ROUND SO MUCH YOU KEEP FAT STUFF AWAKE!
I'M WORRIED!
WORRIED? WHY? WE NOT IN PRISON--NO MEAN GUARDS HERE TO BEAT US--NO SULPHUR DUST TO BREATHE--NOBODY TO SHOVE YOU OFF CLIFF ...
--L MEHOUSE IS DEAD, "HEAD" AND "CLAW" IN DUNGEON WHERE THEY NO CAN KILL YOU--YOU GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, JACK!
THAT'S JUST IT-- THINGS ARE TOO SMOOTH---SOMETHING BAD IS SURE TO HAPPEN--I JUST CAN'T GET USED TO ALL THIS GOOD LUCK!
FAT STUFF UNDERSTAND --ME WILL HELP YOU!
FAT STUFF GOES TO THE CLIPPER'S GALLEY AND RETURNS WITH---
NOW, YOU CAN GO TO SLEEP. ME HOLD THIS OVER YOUR THROAT SO YOU FEEL MORE NATURAL!
JACK, HOW ANYBODY KNOW WHERE WE FLYING TO --ALL WATER LOOK SAME TO FAT STUFF?!
DOWNWIND, YOU'RE NAVIGATOR --YOU TELL HIM!
WE FLY BY DEAD RECKONING, DIRECTIONAL RADIO FINDER, AND CELESTIAL NAVIGATION--I'M GOING TO SHOOT TH' SUN NOW!
BY DROPPING A BOTTLE OF ALUM.NUM POWDER, A CIRCLE IS MADE--- BOTTLE BREAKS AND POWDER SPREADS---
--NOW, I HAVE A FIXED POINT ON WATER UPON WHICH TO SIGHT TH' SEXTANT!
LATER, AT MIDWAY ISLAND--
LISTEN TO THOSE IDLING MOTORS, JACK--THEY BRING SWEET MEMORIES OF ATLANTIC CITY---
CLICK CLICK
YOU MEAN TH' TIME WE STAGED AN AIR SHOW THERE, DOWNWIND?
YES--THOSE MOTORS CLICK JUST LIKE TH' CLICK OF HIGH HEELS ON TH' BOARDWALK!!
SAME OL' ROMEO! IF A DOCTOR X-RAYED YOUR HEAD, ALL HE'D FIND WOULD BE AIRPLANE PARTS HELD TOGETHER BY BLONDES AND REDHEADS!
FAT STUFF, AMERICA MAY SEEM VERY STRANGE TO YOU--I HOPE YOU WON'T GET HOMESICK THERE!
FASTEN YOUR BELTS --WE'RE GO.NG TO LAND!


AH! IT'S GOOD TO BE ON TERRA FIRMA AGAIN!
JACK - YOU NO HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FAT STUFF --HIM NO GET HOMESICK!
FAT STUFF ALREADY LIKE-UM AMERICA MUCH-MUCH-- .. LOOK!
HEY--NOT SO FAST! WE HAVEN'T REACHED AMERICA YET-- THIS IS HAWAII !!
SAN FRANCISCO! AMERICA-- HOME AGAIN!
SAY, DOWNWIND, WHERE'S TH' NEAREST MEN'S STORE--WE GOTTA GET FAT STUFF SOME CLOTHES PRONTO!
FAT STUFF NO WANT CLOTHES --ME GOT PLENTY!
BUT, FAT STUFF, YOU MUST WEAR CLOTHES--YOU LOOK ENTIRELY TOO CONSPICUOUS THIS WAY!
THERE! HOW DOES HE LOOK, DOWNWIND?
WELL, IF YUH ASK ME-- HE WAS LESS CONSPICUOUS BEFORE!!
WHEW! MUCH HOT DAY---- CLOTHES NO GOOD--MAKE FAT STUFF ITCH!!
COMING OUT OF THE OFFICE, JACK FOUND--
I'M TAKIN' YOU IN--NOBODY CAN TURN MY BEAT INTO A NUDIST CAMP!
OFFICER HE MEAN'T NO HARM--HE JUST ISN'T USED TO CLOTHES!
LISTEN, FAT STUFF--FROM NOW ON YOU KEEP YOUR CLOTHES ON! YOU MAY NOT LIKE 'EM BUT IT'S AN OLD CUSTOM HERE!
DOWNWIND IS RIGHT--IN CIVILIZED COUNTRIES PEOPLE DON'T APPEAR IN PUBLIC WITHOUT CLOTHES!
LOOK! WHY YOU LIE TO FAT STUFF?
PUBLIC BEACH
THE MANAGER OF HANK HARBOR, JACK'S OLD HOME AIRPORT, RECEIVES A WIRE--
LISTEN, BOYS--SMILIN' JACK IS COMIN' BACK-- AVE DOWNWIND JAXON IS COMIN' WITH HIM--- DOWNWIND HAS RESIGNED FROM HIS OCEAN JOB!
DOWNWIND JAXON--TH' CASANOVA OF TH' CLOUDS.. --BOYS, YOU BETTER HIDE YOUR GALS!
WHO IS THIS GUY, DOWNWIND --IS HE--HE TH' SAILOR THAT HAS A GAL IN EVERY PORT?
YES, ON--DOWNWIND HAS MORE GALS THAN THERE ARE PORTS!
HE MUST BE SOME ROMEO--- WHAT'S HE LOOK LIKE?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM---

--BUT THEY SAY WHEN HE LOOKS AT A GIRL HER HEART STARTS DOIN' OUTSIDE LOOPS --IF IT DOESN'T STOP FIRST!!
LOOK, DOWNWIND --HAWK HARBOR-- TH' OL' HOME TOWN SURE LOOKS GOOD!
I ... LOOK EVEN BETTER AFTER I GET THROUGH SHOWING IT TO YOU, JACK!
JACK, I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR LOSING YOUR GAL DIXIE, LAST SUMMER - BUT YOU'VE BEEN A ROMANTIC REFUGEE LONG ENOUGH --
YEAH, DOWNWIND I GUESS IT IS ABOUT TIME I GOT BACK IN CIRCULATION'
ATTA BOY! LOOK--THERE'S A PILOTS BALL TONIGHT I'LL GET OUT TH' LITTLE BLACK BOOK AN' CALL A FEW NUMBERS!
GAME OL' DOWNWIND! STILL KEEP YOUR GIRLS INDEXED IN A LITTLE BLACK BOOK!
OH, I'VE IMPROVED ON THAT--I KEEP TH' LITTLE BLACK BOOKS INDEXED ALSO, NOW!
--B--BOSTON--- CHICAGO--DENVER --ELMIRA--- FORT WORTH-GALLESTON --H--HARRISBURG-- HAWK HARBOR-- --HERE WE ARE!!
HURRY, JACK, GET DRESSED! I'VE GOT SOME SWELL DATES LINED UP FOR TH' PILOTS' BALL!
OKAY, DOWNWIND! CONFOUND THIS COLLAR--IT'S GOT MORE STARCH THAN A PURSUIT BOMBER!
MISS MURRAY, THIS IS SMILIN' JACK. YOUR DATE FOR TH' EVENING--HE'S A LITTLE RUSTY AROUND WOMEN--BUT THERE'S STILL HOPE!
HOW DO YOU DO--PAY NO ATTENTION TO THAT WOLF IN SHEIK'S CLOTHING!
WELL--LET'S GO! TH' EVENING'S A-WASTIN'!
BUT, DOWNWIND--WHAT ABOUT TH' --TH'--OTHER FELLOW--AREN'T WE GOING TO WAIT FOR H.M?
THERE ISN'T ANY OTHER FELLOW--- EVERYBODY'S HAPPY!
WHAT A MAN! WHAT A MAN!!
JACK, WHAT FAT STUFF GONNA DO TO KEEP FROM GETTUM HOME-SICK--ME NO CAN DO ANYTHING AROUND AIRPORT!
YES, YOU CAN! REMEMBER THOSE SWELL DINNERS YOU COOKED FOR ME ON TH' ISLAND?
WELL, I'VE GOT YOU A NIGHT JOB COOKING AT THE AIRPORT RESTAURANT --FROM FOUR TO EIGHT!
GOOD! BUT WHAT ME GONNA DO IN TH' DAYTIME?
I'VE GOT THAT ALL FIXED, TOO --COME WITH ME!
??
SAY, DOWNWIND LET'S EAT HERE AT TH' AIRPORT RESTAURANT TONIGHT!
SURE! ANY PLACE IS OKAY WITH ME.... LOOK! THERE'S ALBERTA--A GIRL I KNEW IN CHICAGO!
DOWNWIND!

HAM AN' EGGS --SUNNY SIDE UP!
SAME HERE --WELL, IF IT ISN'T DICKIE-- FROM MIAMI -- HELLO, DICKIE!
WHY, DOWN-WIND! YOU OL' DARLIN'!
--AND THEN--
BIRTHA! HOW'S WAUKEGAN?--AND JUANITA--WHEN DID YOU LEAVE ST. LOUIS?
DOWN-WIND! YOU OL' DEAR!
THAT AIRPORT CAFE IS A SWELL RESTAURANT, JACK--LET'S EAT THERE ALL TH' TIME!
EAT? WHY, YOU DIDN'T TOUCH ONE B.TE OF FOOD!!
AIRPORT CAFE
DIDN'T I?! WELL--IT'S STILL A SWELL RESTAURANT!!
DOWNWIND, THIS PLANE IS SWELL FOR OUR FREE-LANCE FLYING BUSINESS--BUT TELL ME--WHERE'D YOU EVER GET TH' MONEY TO BUY IT?
OH, ONCE THERE WAS AN OLD MAID THAT KINDA FELL FOR ME --SHE REMEMBERED ME IN HER WILL, JACK--WOW, LOOK!
WHY, THERE'S GEORGE!
GEORGE, DEAR! HOW IN TH' WORLD ARE YOU? MY, BUT IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!!
SAME HERE, DARLIN'!
SMACK
CALL ME SOON--YOU'LL F ND ME AT MY STUDIO--TOP FLOOR ARTS BU LD NG--'BYE, GEORGE, HONEY!
'BYE, DARLIN' --I'LL BE SEEIN' YOU!
DOWNWIND, AS LONG AS I'VE KNOWN YOU, TH.S IS TH' F.RST TIME I EVER KNEW YOUR REAL NAME WAS GEORGE!
IT ISN'T--BUT IF A CUTE LITTLE DE-ICER LIKE THAT THINKS I'M GEORGE, WHO AM I TO DISILLUSION A LADY!!
JACK, FAT STUFF HOPE HIM SOON LEARN WAY TO SCHOOL SO YOU NO HAVE TO BRING H M EVERY MORNING!
THAT'S OKAY--YOU JUST STUDY HARD--TRY TO DO WHAT TEACHER SAYS AND YOU'LL LEARN A LOT!
PUBLIC SCHOOL
AS JACK LEAVES THE SCHOOL---
EEEEK!
WHAT TH'--?
OOOH--
HA-HA-HA---
HAW-HAW HAW-W
WHAT'S ALL TH' RIOT--WHAT HAPPENED, TEACHER?
IT'S THAT SOUTH SEA SAVAGE--LOOK!
FAT STUFF! WHAT ON EARTH?
TEACHER TELL PUP.LS TO HANG UP COATS--FAT STUFF NO HAVE COAT SO ME HANG UP SHIRT!!
HA-HAW
HA-HA
FAT STUFF, I KNOW IT'S HARD FOR YOU TO GET USED TO CLOTHES, AFTER HAVING WORN NOTH NG MUCH ALL YOUR LIFE EXCEPT A GOOD COAT OF TAN--BUT--
FAT STUFF NO LIKE-UM CLOTHES!


WELL, WHETHER YOU LIKE 'EM OR NOT, YOU MUST WEAR 'EM -- IF YOU WANT TO STAY IN AMERICA YOU MUST LEARN O.F. CUSTOM
WHAT MEANS CUSTO--?
A CUSTOM IS SOMETHING THAT'S DONE MORE OR LESS, TH' SAME BY MOST PEOPLE -- WHEN EVERY-BODY DOES TH' SAME THING, IT'S OKAY!
LATER
FAT STUFF, WHAT'S TH' BIG IDEA? I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN ALL OVER TH' AIRPORT ASKING FOLKS TO THROW AWAY THEIR CLOTHES!?
FAT STUFF DECIDE AMERICAN CUSTOMS CRAZY--SO FAT STUFF GONNA TEACH-UM AMERICANS SOUTH SEA CUSTOMS!!
JACK MOSLEY
JACK, HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING A MOTHER AND A FATHER TO A SOUTH SEA ISLANDER?
WE PARENTS HAVE OUR TROUBLES -- I JUST GOT A NOTE FROM TH' PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION -- THEY RE ENTERTA NING TH' KIDS TON GHT----
-- AND EACH PUP L MUST BE ACCOMPAN ED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN -- -- SO IT LOOKS AS IF I'LL HAFTA TAKE FAT STUFF!
HA-HA-HA! I'M GOIN' TOO -- I WOULDN'T MISS SEEIN' YOU IN TH S PATERNAL ROLE FOR TH' WORLD!
LATER
GOSH, IT'S HOT AND STUFFY IN THIS AUDITORIUM -- IT'S A M.RACLE FAT STUFF HASN'T TR ED TO TAKE OFF HIS CLOTHES!
IT'S NO MIRACLE, DOWNWIND -- YOU KNOW SCOTTY, TH' AIRPORT COP?---
--- WELL, I BORROWED HIS BRACELETS BEFORE WE LEFT!!
JACK, A WOMAN WANTS TO CHARTER OUR PLANE TO TULSA -- BUT I HAVE A DATE WITH TH' CUTEST LITTLE DE-ICER Y' EVER SAW -- A GIRL I USED TO KNOW IN TAMPA--
OKAY, (DOWNW ND.. I'LL MAKE TH' TRIP!
MADAM, I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' OVER TH' WEATHER REPORTS -- LOTTA DIRTY STUFF TONIGHT -- ALL AIRL NES GROUNDED OUTTA FORT WORTH!
I KNOW -- THAT'S WHY I CALLED FOR A PRIVATE SHIP -- I MUST GET TO TULSA -- MY HUSBAND WAS BADLY INJURED IN TH' OIL FIELDS---
-- THE DOCTORS W.RED THAT HE KEEPS CALLING FOR BABY -- IT MIGHT HELP H.M P.L.. THROUGH IF HE SAW HER --- PLEASE TRY!!
IT'LL BE TOUGH TRIP -- BUT IF YOU INSIST-
TWO HOURS LATER
M-M -- I DON'T LIKE THIS -- -- TH' SOUP IS GETTIN' TOO THICK T' LOOK HEALTHY -- IF I WERE ALONE I WOULDN'T MIND SO MUCH -- BUT WITH A WOMAN AND CHILD ABOARD -----
GULP! THIS STUFF IS C.OS NG IN SO FAST I D BETTER TRY TO GET DOWN SOMEWHERE --- HELLO ---- -- SMIL N' JACK CALLING MEMPH S ---- CALLING MEMPH S -- HOW'S YOUR WEATHER -- ?---

HELLO, SMILIN' JACK--MEMPHIS IS ZERO-ZERO-X --CAN'T EVEN SEE TH' BOUNDARY LIGHTS ACROSS TH' FIELD!
THANKS--- --I'LL TRY NASHVILLE-- --- SMILIN' JACK CALLING NASHVILLE-- --CALLING NASHVILLE-- ----
--SORRY, OL' MAN--TH' STUFF'S LAYING ON TH' GROUND LIKE A QUILT IN NASHVILLE--CHATTANOOGA IS ZERO-ZERO, ALSO---
I'LL TRY TO MAKE IT BACK TO ATLANTA--THEY HAD A FIVE HUNDRED FOOT CEILING WHEN I PASSED THERE AN HOUR AGO!
--ATLANTA TO SMILIN' JACK--- --SORRY--IT'S SO THICK HERE NOW YOU CAN SLICE IT--TH' WHOLE SOUTHEAST IS BOGGED IN--
GULP! AND LOOK HOW LOW THAT GAS TANK IS!!
LISTEN, GIRLIE--GET OFF THIS WAVE BAND--YOU'RE IN TH' AIRPLANE FREQUENCY!
YOU'RE CRAZY--- YOU MUST BE IN TH' HAM RANGE--- --YOU FADE OUT--I'M TRYIN' TO CQ* A GIRL FRIEND IN MINNEAPOLIS TO GET A SPECIAL RECIPE FOR ANGEL FOOD CAKE---
*CQ--CALL #73=GOOD-BYE
--I'M HAVING A PARTY TOMORROW AN' I'VE GOT TO BAKE TH' CAKE TONIGHT--- SO 73's* TO YOU---
OWAH!! HERE I AM ABOUT TO WRAP UP AN AIRPLANE AND I'VE GOT TO WAIT 'TIL YOU WAKE A CAKE!!
WHAT--YOU IN TROUBLE? WHERE ARE YOU--?--
DON'T KNOW EXACTLY --WAIT--I'VE HIT A LITTLE HOLE IN TH' SOUP--I SEE LIGHTS OF A TOWN--LOOKS LIKE VALLEY RIDGE!
WELL--- WHY DON'T YOU LAND THERE--?--
CAN'T--THERE WAS A FLOOD HERE LAST WEEK --MOST OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING TH' AIRPORT, IS STILL UNDER WATER!!
--LISTEN, PILOT, WHOEVER YOU ARE--IF TH' VALLEY RIDGE AIRPORT IS FLOODED-- --FLY TO TH' NORTH SIDE OF TOWN--IT'S HIGHER--ALSO THERE'S AN ATHLETIC FIELD THERE---
--IT'S BEEN LIGHTED FOR NIGHT BASEBALL-- --CIRCLE IT A FEW TIMES AND TH' CARETAKER WILL HEAR YOU AND TURN ON TH' FIELD LIGHTS---
THANKS-- --MISS--ER-- ANGEL FOOD CAKE--SAY, HOW DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT THIS BURG-- --LIVE HERE?
NO--I'M A THOUSAND MILES FROM YOU--BUT I'VE BEEN AROUND--
WELL, I'M CERTAINLY GLAD YOU HAVE --SAY--I'VE SPOTTED TH FIELD!
GOOD--I'LL STAND BY-- LET ME HEAR TH' SECOND YOU'RE SAFELY DOWN---
THANKS, MISS-- --AND IF YOU DON'T HEAR, YOU'LL KNOW WE'RE DOWN--TH' OTHER WAY!!
JACK CIRCLES THE SMALL BASEBALL FIELD A FEW TIMES, SIZING UP EVERY OBSTACLE BEFORE HE ATTEMPTS THE HAZARDOUS LANDING--~~~ THEN JACK LOWERS THE FLAPS AND--
WITH A STEEP SIDE SLIP I MAY SQUEEZE INTO THIS POSTAGE STAMP--

SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

BRAKES, DO YOUR STUFF--EA-SY!
AH! SAFE ON HOME PLATE!--HELLO--MISS--ER--ANGEL FOOD--WE'RE OKAY--THANKS TO YOU--SAY--WHAT'S YOUR CALL LETTERS?--
--I WANTA CONTACT YOU AGAIN LATER SO I CAN REALLY THANK YOU--HELLO--HELLO--OH---- SHE------ --SHE'S GONE--
NEXT MORNING THE FOG LIFTS AND JACK TAKES HIS PASSENGERS ON TO TULSA--
HERE WE ARE, MRS. ANDREWS---- --HOPE EVERYTHING IS OKAY AT TH' HOSPITAL!
WHILE JACK'S PLANE IS BEING SERVICED MRS. ANDREWS CALLS FROM HOSPITAL-
JACK, THE DOCTORS SAY MY BABY'S BEING HERE IS GOING TO HELP MY HUSBAND PULL THROUGH!
I'M SO GLAD--I WISH HIM TH' BEST OF LUCK!
JUST THINK--BECAUSE SOME GIRL LET HER HAM RADIO SLIDE OUT OF BAND SHE SAVED FOUR LIVES--A WOMAN'S, A BABY'S, A FATHER'S--AN' MINE!
I CERTAINLY OWE THAT GIRL A VOTE OF THANKS! --WISH I COULD TELL HER SO--BUT HOW CAN I? I DON'T EVEN KNOW HER NAME OR CALL LETTERS!
THAT WAS SOME EXPERIENCE YOU HAD, JACK--Y'SAY YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO THE PHANTOM GIRL IS--?
NO, DOWNWIND, BUT I'M GONNA FIND OUT SOME WAY--I WANT TO THANK HER PERSONALLY FOR SAVING MY LIFE!
HELLO, FAT STUFF--HOW DO YOU LIKE SCHOOL BY NOW?
ME NO LIKE--- EVERYBODY CRAZY!

GRAZY!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?
WELL, PUPILS ALL TIME SAY--"I SEE KITTY--- YOU SEE KITTY-- KITTY SEE ME--WE SEE KITTY"----
--BUT THEY ALL CRAZY-- FAT STUFF LOOK ALL OVER SCHOOL-HOUSE--AND ME NO SEE ANY KITTY!!
SAY, DOWNWIND, I HAVE AN IDEA .HOW I MIGHT LOCATE THAT PHANTOM RADIO GIRL!
I THINK I GET TH' IDEA --Y'WANT TO CHANGE TH' FREQUENCY ON MY PLANE RADIO SO IT'LL BE IN TH' AMATEUR BAND*!
* RADIO FREQUENCY RANGE
YES--SINCE I ALREADY HAVE AN AIRPLANE 2ND CLASS RADIO TELEPHONE LICENSE IT WON'T TAKE LONG TO GET AN AMATEUR PERMIT!
OKAY, JACK-- YOU KNOW ME! WHERE A HEART-THROB IS CONCERNED DOWNWIND WILL GO TH' LIMIT-- ROMANCE FIRST, IS MY MOTTO !!
ROMANCE? OH, I'M NOT TH' LEAST BIT INTERESTED THAT WAY-- IT'S JUST THAT I OWE HER A DEBT OF GRATITUDE!
SAY, HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO RECOGNIZE HER VOICE?
EASY! I COULD PICK HER VOICE OUT OF ALL TH' HASH* THERE IS ON TH' AMATEUR BAND--EVEN ON A SATURDAY NIGHT!
AHEM! NO--YOU'RE NOT TH' LEAST BIT INTERESTED!
* CONGLOMERATION OF AMATEUR BROADCASTS--
I CONTACTED MISS ANGEL FOOD AGAIN AND SHE SAID IF I'D COME ON THE AIR TONIGHT WE'D HAVE A LONG TALK!!
LATER
WHAT A WAY TO MAKE LOVE! KISSIN' A GAL GOODNIGHT BY SHORT WAVE MAY BE MODERN--BUT I'LL TAKE TH' OLD FASHIONED WAY!
--SMILIN' JACK-- W4ZYM CQ MISS ANGEL FOOD CAKE --COME IN ANGEL FOOD CAKE---
HELLO, SMILIN' JACK--THIS IS ANGEL FOOD ANSWERING---- HOW ARE YOU TONIGHT--WHAT'LL WE TALK ABOUT?
YOU! WHO AN' WHERE ARE YOU? YOU'VE CARRIED ON THIS ETHER WAVE GOOSE CHASE LONG ENOUGH--WHAT DO YOU LOOK LIKE?
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW FOR? YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME!
TH' HECK I WON'T! JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE SO FRESH--I'M GONNA TRACK YOU DOWN--- --WHAT'S YOUR CALL LETTERS?
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW!?
77
YOU'D BETTER IDENTIFY YOUR STATION--IF YOU DON'T TH' RADIO COMMISSION WILL REVOKE YOUR LICENSE---
OH, PERHAPS--BUT IF THEY HAVE AS HARD A JOB LOCATING ME AS YOU ARE HAVING--I'VE LITTLE CAUSE TO WORRY.
FAT STUFF, WHAT'S TH' MATTER--YOU LOOK SAD!?
FAT STUFF NO HAPPY!

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE GETTIN' AN EDUCATION -- PLENTY TO EAT AND---
THAT NO WORRY FAT STUFF -- ME THINKIN' ABOUT DOWNWIND --- HIM GOT-UM MANY GIRL FRIENDS--AN'-
--YOU GOT-UM A GIRL ON RADIO---
WELL, WHY SHOULD THAT MAKE YOU UNHAPPY?
FAT STUFF NO GOT GIRL--- ME WANT-UM GIRL FRIEND, TOO!
!!
I THOUGHT TEACHIN' FAT STUFF TO WEAR CLOTHES AND LEARN ABC'S WAS WORRY ENOUGH -- BUT NOW HE'S UNHAPPY BECAUSE HE DOESN'T KNOW ANY GIRLS!
WHY, I CAN FIX THAT--THERE'S A CUTE LITTLE SOUTH SEA ISLANDER IN TH' BUSTLE SWISHIN' DEPARTMENT OF TH' CHORUS AT TH' TROPICAL CLUB!
LATER:
FAT STUFF, MEET MISS WOO-WOO BALI!
GA GOOK ZOM LOWA LOWA!
LOWA LOWA ZOM OOSKIT!
GEE, I WISH I WAS A SONG WRITER --- I'D MAKE A MILLION OUT OF THAT TALK!
DON'T BE SILLY --- WHO'D UNDERSTAND WORDS LIKE THAT?
ZOOLA-TOK
ZOOLA WOSKIT
NOBODY' THAT'S WHY IT'D BE A SENSATION -- --- YOU PUT THAT CONVERSATION TO MUSIC AND YOU'D HAVE A BIGGER HIT THAN A TISKET, A TASKET OR FLAT FOOT FLOOGIE EVER WAS!
ZOOLA-ZOOLA ZOOK-ZAM-ZOWIE LOW LOWA TOK TIK
JACK, IF YOU AREN'T GONNA SPEND TH' EVENIN' RADIOING YOUR PHANTOM VOICE HOW ABOUT GOING TO TH' MOVIES WITH ME?
I'D LIKE TO, DOWNWIND, BUT I MUST HELP FAT STUFF WITH HIS HOME-WORK!
YES--I SUPPOSE TUTORS MUSTN'T SHIRK THEIR DUTY --WELL, SO LONG, OL' MASTER OF FINE ARTS!
NOW, FAT STUFF, SPELL C-A-T--- CAT!
C-A--C-A-- AW, THAT WORD TOO LONG--LET'S SPELL-UM LITTLE WORD LIKE D-O-!
FAT STUFF, YOU AREN'T CONCENTRATING --- DON'T YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO SPELL?
YEAH-- BUT FAT STUFF RATHER LEARN ABOUT HOW TO MAKE-UM LOVE TO MY GIRL, WOO-WOO!
HEY, DOWNWIND, COME BACK! HERE'S WHERE YOU TAKE OVER--- HE'S IN YOUR DEPARTMENT NOW!
WELL, FIRST YOU BUY HER FLOWERS AND CANDY AND---
TUTORS MUSTN'T SHIRK THEIR DUTY--WELL, SO LONG, OL' MASTER OF FINE ARTS!